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Team continues  
to work on school  
re-opening plan

HOLYOKE – Cynthia Carbone, Director of Health, Wellness and Nursing, provided an update on the coronavirus in Western Massachusetts. Hampden County continues to have the highest number of cases in western Mass, and Holyoke is averaging about 40 cases per week.

RE-OPENING, 15

Meals program  
to continue  
into summer

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Public Schools Summer Feeding Program began on Monday, June 22. We will be serving Breakfast, Lunch, Snack and Dinner at Kelly, Morgan, Lawrence, Donahue, HHS North and Sullivan school from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday's and Friday's. Tuesday's meals will be distributed on Monday, Thursday meals will be distributed on Wednesday and Saturday and Sunday meals will be distributed on Friday. View the flyer.

HPS food distribution sites will be closed on July 3, in observance of July 4, and open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday that week. Friday, July 3 meals will be distributed on Thursday, July 2. The regular, Monday, Wednesday, Friday schedule will resume the week after.

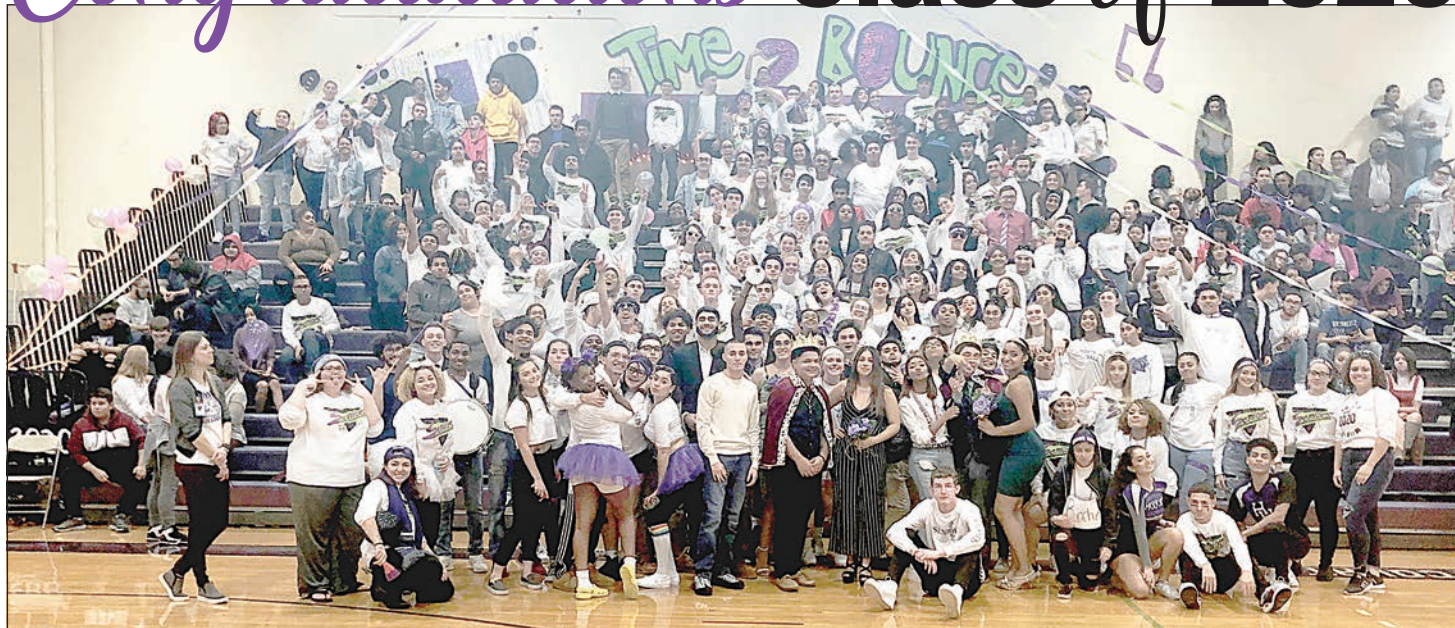


Family members,  
VFW support new  
Soldiers Home

HOLYOKE – A coalition of veterans, family members, veteran services representatives and concerned citizens are petitioning Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito to immediately approve a project that would result in a new Soldiers' Home in Holyoke.

SOLDIERS, 15

Congratulations Class of 2020



Get your first look at the graduating Class of 2020 starting on page 5.

Submitted photo

Report faults leadership for Soldiers Home outbreak

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Fault has been found with the former management of the Holyoke Soldiers Home and the state Secretary of Veterans Affairs

has resigned as a result of an independent report conducted by the Baker-Polito administration.

In a news conference on Wednesday afternoon, Gov. Charlie Baker announced that an independent firm

found that the Soldiers Home administration, led by former Superintendent Bennett Walsh, failed to properly handle a coronavirus outbreak that led to many veterans in the home getting infected, with 76 deaths resulting.

Once Walsh was removed and Baker placed new interim leadership at the home, things began to improve and there are currently no residents or staff of the Soldiers Home with COVID-19.

The report, written by Boston Attorney Mark Pearlstein, was 174 pages long and included more than 100 interviews with witnesses from staff to family members of veterans.

In the summary, Pearlstein states that in addition to the 76 veterans who died from the coronavirus, 84 more veterans were infected and more than 80 staff members also tested positive.

The report places the blame of the outbreak on Walsh and his staff.



Markers with small American flags are placed at the base of the driveway to the Holyoke Soldiers Home. 76 veterans living at the facility have died, and a recent report places the blame on the previous administration.

Photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

See INVESTIGATION, page 15

Retiring teacher completes  
one final project with students

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – A K-3 art teacher, Denise Descoteau, is retiring this year, and as one of her last projects she decided to do an interdisciplinary unit of study covering science, engineering, art, and art history. This was a Tree House art project and was done by third grade students during late December to the end of February.

Students completed their projects before they left school on March 13, due to COVID-19. Descoteau was able to get pictures of her students with their projects the

week before school closure and the students left. With this interdisciplinary project the students used Science to study trees and their structures, as well as how to support a tree house building. The students also learned Engineering by studying structural design and architectural features to construct their projects, looking at features as simple as house embellishments and how they contribute to the overall project.

For the art components of the class, the students learned about architects such

See TEACHER, page 13

City council approves  
funding for police contract

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – After balking due to the sourcing of funds, the Holyoke City Council unanimously approved the new contract for Holyoke Police Union Local 388.

With the contract improved, city patrol officers will receive retroactive cost-of-living increases and additional raises based on educational achievements.

However, the flat rate for education incentives goes away and is replaced with a percentage. There will be a 6

percent raise for a two-year degree, 10 percent for a four-year degree, and a 12 percent raise for Master's.

The council was a bit more amenable to approving the transfer from the stabilization fund because Mayor Alex Morse reduced amount being requested to \$184,000. There were other funding sources used to account for the rest of the amount.

The council's Finance Committee milled the contract around for a bit, last debating it earlier in the month.

Finance Committee mem-

See POLICE, page 13



# Mayor declares racism public health emergency

HOLYOKE -- Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse has issued an Executive Order declaring Racism and Police Violence to be matters of public health that constitute a public health emergency. The Executive Order includes a list of initial actions that the City is taking to combat this public health crisis. Included in the Executive Order is a provision that provides for a paid day off for City Hall employees this Friday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth Independence Day. The Mayor is encouraging local businesses and fellow Mayors to do the same and will be requesting that the Holyoke City Council establish June 19 as a recurring holiday in the City. The executive order is below:

## EXECUTIVE ORDER OF MAYOR ALEX B. MORSE

An Executive Order Declaring Racism and Police Violence as matters of Public Health that Constitute a Public Health Emergency

WHEREAS, Racism is a threat to public health and safety, and is a paramount social determinant of health, shaping access to the resources that create opportunities for health, including public safety, housing, education and employment, and is a persistent barrier to health equity for the people of Holyoke;

WHEREAS, Racism has for centuries influenced our housing policies that have led to people of color being overwhelmingly subjected to poor hous-

ing conditions that negatively affect their health;

WHEREAS, Racism within our nation's labor policies has led to people of color being overrepresented in at-risk jobs, endangering their health and well-being, especially during the coronavirus pandemic;

WHEREAS, Systemic and Overt Racism is a documented significant stressor to communities of color, negatively impacting health outcomes;

WHEREAS, by definition, a public health issue is something that hurts and kills people "or impedes their ability to live a healthy, prosperous life;"

WHEREAS, the disproportionate level of violence inflicted on persons of color by the police in the United States is a direct violation of an individual's ability to live a healthy, prosperous life;

WHEREAS, Racial Justice is the proactive reinforcement of policies, practices, attitudes and actions that produce equitable power, access, opportunities, treatment, impacts and outcomes for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alex B. Morse, by virtue of the power vested in me as Mayor of Holyoke, do hereby order and direct as follows:

I, Alex B. Morse, Mayor of Holyoke, hereby declare that Racism and Police Violence are matters of Public Health that constitute a Public Health Emergency.

In recognition of this fact, I am taking the following actions as Mayor, and

request that the City Council and all city agencies direct the necessary resources to dismantle Systemic Racism within our city through the development of policies, programs, and outreach, including but not limited to;

A. The creation of a Racial Equity Public Health Professional position within the Holyoke Board of Health with the directive of collecting and reviewing data on the disparity of public health outcomes for people of color, and developing public health plans with community partners to address those challenges.

B. The establishment of a Citizen Police Advisory Committee to the Mayor that shall consist of 11 members from the City of Holyoke, and who will be empowered and entrusted to advise the Mayor on matters of racial justice within policing. The advisory board, through their self-elected Chair, will have authority to request information from the Holyoke Police Department and all departments within City Hall to inform them of their recommendations to the Mayor. These recommendations will lay the groundwork for future directives for the combatting of systemic racism within the city.

C. The recognition of June 19th as "Juneteenth Independence Day," as a paid day off for City employees in Holyoke, with an official recommendation to the Holyoke City Council to codify the day as an annual holiday.

D. Support through advocacy

and funding; studies that explore the effectiveness of interventions that may decrease reliance on law enforcement, including decriminalization, increased investment in social determinants of health, and community-based alternatives that promote public safety, such as violence intervention and restorative justice.

E. Advocacy at the state and federal level for policies and funding opportunities that directly combat systemic racism; such as the elimination of legislative provisions that shield law enforcement officers from investigation and accountability, otherwise known as qualified immunity.

I hereby order every City cabinet, department, agency, and office to take all necessary steps to implement this Executive Order, including through the allocation of funding and other resources in a manner consistent with applicable law.

The provisions of this Order are severable and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions that shall remain in full force and effect.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately. This Executive Order and the provisions herein shall remain in effect unless superseded or otherwise changed by Executive Order.

SIGNED THIS 17th DAY OF JUNE, 2020



STCC received a donation from Stop & Shop to support the food pantry for students. Submitted photo

## STCC food pantry receives gift from Stop & Shop for summer relief

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College received another donation from Stop & Shop to support the Ram Cupboard, the emergency food pantry to help students facing food insecurity.

Stop & Shop has made previous donations to the Ram Cupboard. The latest gift of \$1,000 for "summer relief" brings the total to \$13,500.

"We sincerely appreciate the generous support from Stop & Shop," said Denise Hurst, Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs at STCC. "This gift comes to us during challenging times. Many of our students have been struggling financially through the COVID-19 pandemic. This donation will help put food on their tables."

The STCC Center for Access Services, which administers the Ram Cupboard, will work with students in need, connect them with local support agencies for immediate assistance and mail them a Stop & Shop gift card for additional support.

In response to the threat posed by COVID-19, STCC this summer and through the fall will offer online courses with a mix of low-density on-campus labs. STCC continues to offer a range of student supports in remote for-

mats, including the Center For Access Services, Academic Advising, Career Development Center, Disability Services, Testing and Assessment, Tutoring and Veterans' Affairs.

Stop & Shop representative Maura O'Brien and Belchertown Store Manager Jasen Hodge recognized the difficulty with food insecurity many students are facing this summer and wanted to help.

"As a show of community support, Stop & Shop is going to provide summer relief to the School Food Pantry recipients at STCC in the amount of \$1,000," O'Brien said. "We know how difficult this time has been for so many, and we're proud to support those in need."

Stop & Shop has offered a school-based food pantry program to help reduce hunger among students in communities served by the company's more than 400 stores in the Northeast.

Stop & Shop works with pre-schools, grade schools and colleges to create a customized program based on the specific needs of the students and the school's infrastructure. The company's goal is to ensure that students have access to food.

STCC students who need help should contact CAS by emailing CAS@stcc.edu.

## Environmental officials announce recipients of 'Green Team' awards

BOSTON - State environmental officials today recognized students from 44 schools across the Commonwealth for outstanding environmental actions as members of the "Green Team," a statewide environmental education program sponsored by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

"The Baker-Polito Administration congratulates all the Green Team teachers and students, who showed outstanding leadership and initiative during the past school year to raise environmental awareness in their schools, homes and communities," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "When schools closed in March, these students continued to work on environmental activities at home, including recycling, composting, gardening, and creating outreach materials to share with their classmates, setting a tremendous example for both their peers and the entire Commonwealth."

Students of any age can participate in the Green Team program, an initiative composed of students that share the goals of reducing pollution and protecting the environment. More than 111,000 students in 391 classes at 341 schools joined the Green Team this school year, a record level of participation for the program.

Students took part in a range of activities, including expanding school recycling programs, collecting textiles for donation and recycling, starting a compost pile using organic waste from the school cafeteria and using the compost it generates to nourish a garden to grow vegetables, making their school driveways "Idle-Free Zones," increasing energy efficiency in their schools and communities, and reducing their carbon footprint at school and at home.

These activities incorporated class-

room disciplines from the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), reading, writing, art, and other non-classroom, interrelated projects.

"Each year, Green Team students take the concept of environmental stewardship right into their own schools and communities with practical approaches to energy conservation, recycling, composting and pollution prevention projects," said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. "Participants in the Green Teams each year put into practice ideas that create a positive impact on our environment, and take steps to expand recycling and energy efficiency efforts."

Participating teachers received a Green Team Kit containing classroom posters, lesson plans, recycling tips and access to a library of other resources. In addition, 33 schools received recycling equipment from the Green Team to initiate or expand school recycling programs. Eighteen schools received signs reading "Idle-Free Zone" from the Green Team that serve as a visual reminder to drivers to turn off their engines while waiting in the schoolyard.

Participating classes entered in a drawing for prizes, and 44 classes received prizes for their efforts (see list below). Thirteen schools won grand prizes for schoolwide participation, and will receive remote interactive performances by environmental "edu-tainer" Jack Golden, or gift cards to local garden centers for trees and gardening supplies to further "green" their schools. The other 31 classes will be invited to participate in the remote environmental shows.

To learn more or to participate in the 2020-2021 school year, the 19th year for the Green Team, teachers may sign up online here.

Christine Burns from Donahue School in Holyoke was a Green Team prize winner.



# \$35K grant boosts HCC student emergency fund

HOLYOKE – After COVID-19 broke, applications to the President’s Student Emergency Fund at Holyoke Community College soared.

The fund, established by President Christina Royal through the HCC Foundation, is meant to assist students facing unanticipated financial burdens, such as a lack of affordable housing, childcare expenses, and transportation.

For the 2019-2020 academic year, 93 percent of student requests to the fund have come since mid-March. As HCC transitioned to remote learning, nearly \$25,000 has been distributed to help students facing income loss and struggling to pay their bills in the midst of the pandemic.

“We are talking about an average gift of \$500,” said Amanda Sbriscia, HCC vice president of Institutional Advancement and executive director of the HCC Foundation, the college’s non-profit fundraising corporation. “That is often the difference between staying on a path to a college degree or never being able to return to the classroom. Studying and learning remotely has meant added and unanticipated expenses for our students. Faster internet, upgraded technology, housing and food costs, utility bills – seemingly simple shifts in daily life are easy to manage for some, but for many HCC students, they can derail their entire education.”

This week, the President’s Student Emergency Fund at HCC received a \$35,000 boost in the form of a grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts designated for COVID-19 relief. The HCC Foundation was one of 29 area nonprofits receiving financial assistance in the latest round of COVID-19 relief funds from the Community Foundation.



A recent grant helped give the emergency fund a boost at HCC. Submitted photo

# American Heritage Museum connects visitors to WWII history

HUDSON – As history compels the world to observe the 75th anniversary year of the end of World War II, visitors to the American Heritage Museum in Hudson are being offered the opportunity to connect with that era by driving a legendary Sherman or Chaffee tank.

The Tank Driving Experience programs have been developed by veterans and museum docents who were tank instructors in the Army and Marine Corps. The experience transports participants back to 1944 that begins with visitors putting on tanker overalls, participating in a training course and being briefed on tactical objectives required of tank crews from WWII through today.

“Imagine yourself receiving one-on-one driving instruction in either the world’s only full dual control M4A3 Sherman tank or dual control M24 Chaffee tank,” Rob Collings, museum president and CEO said. “The legendary Sherman tanks were in every major battle in WWII. The Chaffee light tanks were revered by its crew for being quick, maneuverable and effective. The Tank Driving Experience is unforgettable. We hope participants will take away a personal piece of this history and passion to learn more during this milestone anniversary year.”

Hunter Chaney, the museum’s education services coordinator said the immersive experience may be an effective way to engage younger folks and offer new understandings of the dangers faced by soldiers during the war.

For more information on the Tank Driving Experience, visit [www.americanheritemuseum.org/tank-driving-experiences](http://www.americanheritemuseum.org/tank-driving-experiences).

# SCHOOL YEAR ENDS



Teacher and students alike were wearing masks as city schools had various end-of-year gatherings or drive-by meetings to symbolize the end of the school year, which concluded last week. Submitted photo

# Anniversary celebration of women’s suffrage planned

AGAWAM – In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1920, prohibiting the federal and state governments from denying citizens the right to vote on the basis of sex, the GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club is excited to present this wonderful first person interpretive program.

Broadcast live on Agawam Comcast channel 15 live.

Live streaming on AgawamMedia.tv: <http://agawamvod.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/gallery/3?channel=2>

There was a time in our national history when a married woman did not have legal rights to the money she earned, the property she inherited, or the children she bore. During this same era citizens of the United States thought it a legal and rational pursuit to buy and trade human beings. Lucy Stone, born in Brookfield Massachusetts 1818, decided it was time for this nation to demonstrate the democracy it preached. Crisscrossing the country, she spoke eloquently and passionately about the most important issues of her time.

A contemporary of Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone will address the issues of Woman’s Rights and Abolition plus share with her audience chapters from own life.

Ms. Stone will be summoned through the personage of storyteller/actress Judith Black, who was commissioned to create this work by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities in partnership with the Tsongas Industrial History Center at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as part of the State House Woman’s Leadership Project. Come and join us in investigating an under explored vantage point on a very important time in our nation’s growth and development and meet Lucy Stone.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a State agency and the generous support of Westfield Bank. We thank them for assisting with this program so it can be offered to the public.

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club was organized in 1957. The original object and purpose on which the club was founded continues to be its purpose today - the advancement of public welfare and the promotion of civic and cultural interests of the women of Agawam. The GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club is a member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs of Massachusetts, Junior Membership. For more information regarding the club or the event please check out our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/AgawamJuniorWomensClub/>

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Guest Column

When feather-nested fledglings fly

By Joan E. B. Coombs  
Guest Columnist

Life in its various forms – whether human, animal, or bird – takes time to develop and grow. Whatever the age span, there’s a g-r-o-w-t-h process. Amazingly, with each life, the proper nourishment and environment can eventually lead to a successful, mature life.

Not choosing biology as a major, yet having grown up observing and tending various small-farm animals and birds from birth, helps one to understand the development and the growing-up process. Whether it was watching newborn calves be born, get up, and wobble-walk. Or, when weaned, helping them to drink from a bucket, instead of feeding from Mama Cow. With gentle, patient coaxing, calves eventually learned to sip, slurp and swallow. Or, if it was rescuing a tail-wounded squirrel back to health. (Later “Tippy the Squirrel” celebrated by scale-running up and down the keys of an upright piano sitting against the wall of an enclosed sunporch!) Or, if it was the eager, day-by-day watching of a pen of hen’s incubated and hatching eggs and the ensuing life-struggle of transparent-skinny baby chicks onto finally seeing their yellow fuzz adorningly and adorably appear.

Zoom to present day observations. By all appearances the “birds-of-a-feather-stick-together” motto is applying to our nearby barn swallow parents, now hovering over a few newly hatched eggs right outside our front door. They are in feathered abode, way up in a mud-thatched nest molded over the frame of our front door’s entrance light.

Every time we leave our home and come back, perhaps our nearby neighbors wonder about out sidewalk conversations with Mr. and Mrs. Barn Swallow? Whenever walking out, the birds swish by with swoop loops from their nest to landing right on our front lawn’s white globe lamp. As they perch together atop the white globe, we intentionally stop and chat.

“Well, good morning! And, how’s the family?”

As if listening to our greetings, they tilt their heads as if understanding every word.

So far, they haven’t replied in bird-banter. While spindle-leg standing, as each parent starts preening its feathers, we sense their contentment.

Recently however, Mr. Barn Swallow seems edgy. He’s overtly protective. His Mrs. is on setting their nest more. As the hatching arrival approaches, the pair still takes daytime flights for insect food, and each takes turns with keeping the nested eggs warm.

Protective environments, with all the necessary components for healthy growth – shelter, food and nurturing – happen during times of incubation. Often it seems that a reoccurring

See *FLY*, page 10



Poetry Corner

Faith Forever

By Thomas J. Kennedy

Faith... Just Faith... Just Faith  
Faith just... Spiritual Love  
Faith moves mountains Faith only thing that moves mountains  
So needed today – Crying out for higher power, even parents.  
Where are we going – So needed today  
As individuality has been trampled they say  
And we need it transformed in some good way.

Honest Honesty pure honesty  
Why and where... for us to be.  
Juxtaposition forming here... His Story,  
Right or wrong in History.  
Some born into this and that,  
Where is honesty, kindness and open understanding  
As some tear down things – More than a child.

Now back to self integrity and less mob dangerous think  
Child-man leadership lacking without responsibility.  
Fools they are to scourge the night,  
When child’s eyes are burning bright  
So you ungrounded don’t spoil their light.

Too many today – fatherless insecure children  
Taking away their childhood today.  
Noise, violence, destruction death hard,  
But not harder than their hate screams  
Get back on track – Rebuild the Family Team.

Next generation will, with Faith, will endure  
As long as they grow in grace and wisdom – mature.  
Politicians too guilty of unjust money and vice  
Someone cheating or enablers will soon pay the price.

Life and people are not perfect,  
Erasers are still on the end of pencils.  
We can always strive for the ideal  
Yes, put your ideals to reality...

But respect us, few, romanticist idealist  
And strive to be the best you can be.

What if we forget – Who, if anyone will remember me.  
Nothing can give you Love, grace, peace and joy,  
but daily intimacy with God,  
As He alone – has the final answer.



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A Quote

OF NOTE

“The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.”

– Walt Disney

Letters to the Editor Policy

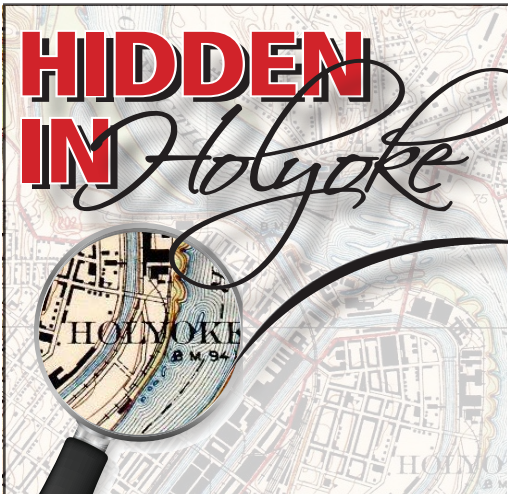
Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



Each week, *The Holyoke Sun* will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city.

Think you know what or where it is? Readers are encouraged to submit their guesses to “Hidden in Holyoke” via email to TheSun@Turley.com. In order to qualify for the weekly contest, entries must be received by Wednesday at noon for inclusion into Friday’s edition. Please include your full name with your guess in an email to TheSun@turley.com. If more than one correct answer is received, the names of all those who submitted guesses will be listed. For more information, contact *The Holyoke Sun* at 413-283-8398.



Last week’s “Hidden in Holyoke” was the John DiNapoli Police Memorial at Heritage State Park.



# Best Wishes to the Class of 2020

## North Campus Valedictorian - Jack Shea

John “Jack” Shea, son of Christopher and Meghan Shea of Holyoke, has spent the last four years excelling at everything he’s done. Since starting high school, John has taken every Honors and Advanced placement course that he could, and has transcended in every one of them. In addition to John’s illustrious academic record, he is a 3 sport athlete, achieving All Western Mass in both Cross Country and Indoor Track. Beyond academics and athletics, John is a part of several clubs and organizations such as As Schools Match Wits, Student Government, and



Regional Student Advisory Council, just to name a few. John will be attending Harvard University in the fall and will be studying mechanical engineering. Always humble, John tends to credit his family members for exposing him to the world of engineering and all of the Holyoke Public Schools staff for his success, but any one of them can say that John’s accomplishments and desires are his own, through his intrinsically motivated self. A kind-hearted soul whose success and determination knows no bounds.

## Dean Campus Valedictorian and Vocational Student of the Year - Jorge Gonzalez

Jorge Gonzalez, son of Luz Pereira and Jorge Gonzalez, resides in Holyoke and is the epitome of what an excellent student is both vocationally and academically. Jorge has excelled in Electrical from his first year as a freshman to this final year as a senior. He has mastered, or exceeded all of the competencies in the Massachusetts Vocational Technical Frameworks for Electrical and is working at Beaulieu Electric through Cooperative Education. Jorge displays dedication to his education through a



near-perfect attendance record, 4.2 GPA, and status as a John and Abigail Adams Scholar. He is Bilingual in English and Spanish, takes part in an anti-bullying club Unity, and enjoys the outdoors with the Eagle Eye Club. Above all his intellectual successes, Jorge is a kind, generous, and reflective person making him an excellent candidate for this award. He plans to further his education in Electrical Engineering at Springfield Technical Community College while continuing to work in the electrical field.

## North Campus Salutatorian - Patricia Haradon

Patricia Haradon, daughter of Katherine and Mark Haradon of Holyoke, is HHS North’s Salutatorian for the historic class of 2020. Trish is an amazing, well rounded young woman who has excelled in all areas, particularly in math and science - taking advanced placement and accelerated courses whenever possible. Trish is not only an accomplished student, but also a leader who has busied herself with many extracurricular activities during her high school career. A few of Trish’s many accomplishments include three years with the madrigal



choir, castings in four musical productions, member of the soccer team, three seasons as pitcher on the softball team, class treasurer, and a member of student government. Trish is also a member of the 2020 Colleen’s Court in the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Trish will attend UMass Amherst in the fall with a major in Legal Studies and a minor in Psychology. Trish sends a special shoutout to all of her family, teachers, coaches, and school counselors who have taught her not just about the basics, but life in general and to go into the world with a healthy and strong mindset!

## Dean Campus Salutatorian - Emanuel Salamanca

Emanuel Salamanca, son of Jessica Collazo and Emanuel Salamanca Sr., is a student in the Auto Collision shop. He is a role model in his school community and looked up to by both staff and students alike. He is an exemplary scholar in both his academic and vocational program. In addition, Emanuel has consistently challenged himself by taking the most rigorous courses offered on the Dean Campus. Emanuel has been a Dean Campus Rising Star and has participated in school-wide activities, including



Eagle Eye and Game Club. Emanuel was chosen to participate in an internship for Eagle Eye Club this past summer. Emanuel balances both his school course load and employment at a local grocery store while maintaining a 3.67 GPA and stellar attendance record. He is also a John and Abigail Adams scholarship recipient. In addition to the many academic and vocational successes, Emanuel is a kind, humble, and dedicated human being. Emanuel plans to further his education while pursuing employment in the Auto Collision field.

## Class of 2020 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients

### Dean Campus

Norangely Andaluz, Jorge Gonzalez, Devin Ramos Ortiz, Emanuel Salamanca

### North Campus

Abigail Adamczyk, Yanira Alfaro, Jaydis Alvarado Lugo, Damian Alvarado Ortiz, Norangely Andaluz, Christian Avendano, Yadelis Badillo, Devin Beauregard, Isis Blanco, Amy Bonilla, Christian Boria, Charlotte Brunette, Destiny Calderon, Johnnie Calderon, Nathan Canata, Leslie Castro Laboy, Santynnee Chen, Isiah Colon, Valeria Colon Colon (WD), Aiden Consedine, Frank Correa, Jalen Cortes, Javin Covey, Julian De LaCruz (OA), Bailey Digris, Jordan Dudas, Chayenne Dunn, Gabriel Fernandez, Jesiah Fernandez,

Crystal Figueroa Hernandez, Alyzza Fontanez, Melina Garcia, Selena Garcia Rodriguez, Kenneth Garron, Jorge Gonzalez, Anthony Guzman, Patricia Haradon, Keiry Heath, Yaelisa Heredia, Lindsay Hoey, Acadia Joniec, Justin Kennedy, Victoria Lopez, Anthony Martelli, Brandon McKenna, Justice Melendez Troche, Aryana Morales, Jeremiah Morales, Sean Moreau, Connor Narey, Chloe Ostrander, Ravi Patel, Kristin Ragoonanan, Devin Ramos Ortiz, Shivani Ramraykha, Reylon Rivera, Ryan Rodriguez Caban, Valerie Roman, Emanuel Salamanca, Axaria Scott, John Shea, Jovaughn Smith Antuna, Greyson Stark, Collin Stasinos, Bethany Steele (WD), Adam Stevenson, Jacob Swinehart, Adam Sypniak, Aloni Torres, Jeyleen Troche Rivera, Sheyleen Troche Rivera, Andy Valle, Zaiell Vargas, Nayelie Velez, Jacob Whitlock



## Pa'lante Peer Leaders

The following members of the Class of 2020 have been Pa'lante Peer Leaders:

Alyzza Fontanez, Amy Bonilla,

Christian Avendano, Reylon Rivera, Jose Roman, Carlos “Speedy” Dallieth Torres, Thaylianiz Garcia, Jeyleen Troche Rivera, Jesmuel Concepcion, Zaiell Vargas, David Schipper Perez.

## Class of 2020 Future Plans

The Class of 2020 will be attending the following colleges and universities this fall:

- American International College
- Arizona State University
- Bay Path University
- Becker College
- Brandeis University
- Bridgewater State University
- Bryant University
- Curry College
- Digrigoli School of Cosmetology
- Elms College
- Fitchburg State University
- Hampshire College
- Harvard University
- Holyoke Community College
- Keene State University
- Lincoln Tech
- Mount Holyoke College

- Navarro Community College
- Pennsylvania State University
- Plymouth State University
- Rosemont College
- San Francisco Academy of the Arts
- Smith College
- Springfield College
- Springfield Technical Community College
- The American Musical and Dramatic Academy
- Union College
- University of California Berkeley
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Western New England University
- Westfield State University
- Worcester Polytec

## Student Ambassadors

Class of 2020 Student Ambassadors supported our 8th-grade students as they explored the different opportunities for ninth grade. They visited 8th-grade classrooms and shared their experiences and advice and hosted the 8th-graders at the high school campuses when they came for a visit. North Campus Student Ambassadors include: Christiana Boria, Nate Canata, Aiden Consedine,

Jordan Dudas, Gaby Fernandez, Alyzza Fontanez, Melina Garcia, Selena Garcia Rodriguez, Yaelisa Heredia, Acadia Joniec, Brandon McKenna, Ravi Patel, Shivani Ramraykha, Jose Roman, Jack Shea, Lauryn Wresien. Dean Campus Student Ambassadors include: Daisha Heredia, Genesis Rodriguez, Norangely Andaluz, Zachary Rothus, Rebecca Jiminez, Mileishka Berrios Roman

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# Best Wishes to the Class of 2020

## Holyoke High School North Campus Graduating Seniors

Adamczyk, Abigail C Alfaro, Yanira Alvarado Lugo, Jaydis J Alvarado Planas, Kelvin F Alvarado-Ortiz, Damian E Alvarado, Ariannie L Alvarez Torres, Iliana M Alvarez, Jesleane Z Anaya Torres, Hector J Arvelo Ruiz, Kevin Asselin, Ryan M Avendano, Christian Ayala, Joalis M Badillo, Yadelis A Basora, Lailakhai C Beauregard, Devin P Bermudez, Kylie R Birks, Ari E Blanco, Isis R Bonilla, Amy Boria, Christiaan X Boucher-Hendricks, Hannah R Brunette, Charlotte G Burgos, Brianna L Cabrera, Robert O Cabrera, William R Calderon, Destiny M Canata, Nathan J Carattini, Dereck Cartwright, Cameron J Casiano, Zianializ N Castro-Laboy, Leslie K Caudle, Aztiney Charnik, Autumn Leigh Chen, Santyanee A Collazo, Felix C Colon Martinez, Marilian Colon, Isiah E Concepcion Oquendo, Jesmuel J Consedine, Aiden P Correa, Frank A Cortes, Jalen J Covey, Javin A Crespo Feliciano, Alexis Cruz, Niles Cubero Montanez, Yadiel O	Dallieth Torres, Carlos Darkwah, Richard J De Jesus-Cruz, Darrian T De Leon, Kayani I Diaz-Ofray, Alanis Diaz, Isaiah G Diaz, Luis A Diaz, Reyniel Digris, Bailey M Dominicci Feliciano, Adaris Dorado, Karl J Dudas, Jordan R Dunn, Cheyenne K Dusseault, Lindsey N Dusseault, Travis M Febus, Abigale R Feldman, Julia E Feliciano Osorio, Angeliz Feliciano, Destiny M Felix, Julio A Fernandez, Gabriel Fernandez, Jesiah D Figueroa Hernandez, Crystal P Figueroa, Ellice M Figueroa, Victor M Fontan Ortiz, Armando Fontanez, Alyzza M Ganious, Marcus K Garcia Rodriguez, Selena C Garcia, Jesus M Garcia, Johnny Garcia, Melina A Garcia, Thaylianiz A Garrett, Nyari A Garron, Kenneth A Glasheen, Abby R Gonzalez Melendez, Bryan J Gonzalez Torres, Victoria S Gonzalez, Genesis L Gonzalez, Jonathan J Gonzalez, Moises J Gratton, Justin C Gubala, Brennan M Guzman Diaz, Melanie Guzman, Anthony F Haradon, Patricia A	Heath, Keiry C Henao, Makayla L Heredia, Yaelisa E Hernandez Tosado, Haydieliza Hernandez, Alex X Hoey, Lindsay E Ibarra, Jesus M Ingle, Elpida Z Iturrino, Brandon O Jimenez Camacho, Jorge M Jones, Raeven Z Joniec, Acadia R Jusino, Jonathan C Kane, Erika J Keitt, Elizabeth C Kro, Donovan L Lagoy, Jaelee M Laramee, William J Lewis, George M Lopez Alvarado, Anyelika M Lopez, Victoria Luciano, Michael I Lukasiewicz, Michael R Mares, Joseph A Martelli, Anthony J Martinez, Gabriela Mateo Baerga, Rashel A McKenna, Brandon P Melendez Troche, Justice J Mendez Gonzalez, Raul D Meyer, Brenden R Montanez, Yadiel N Montesino Arbaje, Moises A Montgomery, Leah R Monzom, Jose M Morales, Aliana I Morales, Aryana E Morales, Jeremiah Moreau, Sean A Moret Salamo, Nayelis P Nadeau, Samantha A Narey, Connor J Narvaez Figueroa, Prisila N Nathan, Donna B Neal, Kayla A Nunez, Alethyan O	Ojeda, Neishalee M Olavarria, Jakira L Ortega, Matthew P Ortiz Baez, Kayra M Ortiz Caraballo, Samuel Ortiz, Briana Ortiz, Felicity H Ostrander, Chloe A Pacheco, Jose G Patel, Ravi B Pater, Christopher N Pedrosa, Christopher Perez Santiago, Stephany R Pirela, Dameon A Ragoonanan, Kristin Ramos Class, Henry Ramos Colon, Francisco Ramraykha, Shivani H Reardon, Morgan D Reed, Nathan C Resto Ruiz, Maryangelis Rivas, Rafael A Rivera Cotto, Ilinett A Rivera Ortiz, Alanis Rivera Pinto, Isheily M Rivera Rivera, Yuliana Rivera, Jaydah A Rivera, Jderick M Rivera, Luis A Rivera, Luis E Rivera, Nathan J Rivera, Reylon J Rivera, Shakira L Robles, Mariale Roche, Marcos X Rodriguez Caban, Ryan Y Rodriguez, Emily M Rodriguez, Jaishalee M Rodriguez, Jordan L Rodriguez, Nayeliss F Rodriguez, Victor H Roman Soto, Dara E Roman, Jose E Roman, Valerie I Rondon Rivera, Gamalierys D Saez, Feliberto	Sanabria-Ramos, Osiris A Sanchez, Juan E Santiago Figueroa, Arnaldo R Santiago, Jayree M Santiago, Kiaralys Santiago, Matthew Santos, Gabriel A Santos, Ohndrae Schipper Perez, David M Scott, Axaria E Shea, John C Sheehan, Morgan A Sierra-Ledesma, Jonathan N Smith-Antuna, Jov Vaughn M Smith, Brian A Soto, Anthony A Stark, Greyson M Stasinos, Collin A Stevenson, Adam T Stevenson, Izaac L Swinehart, Jacob Thomas, Caleb A Torres Acevedo, Alegna C Torres-Burgos, Keyla M Torres, Alesandra R Torres, Aloni N Torres, Noeliz Torres, Tiana S Troche Rivera, Jeyleen M Troche Rivera, Sheyleen M Valdez, Penelope M Valle, Andy A Vargas, Zaiell C Varley, Evan M Vazquez Rivera, Kassandra M Vega Rivera, Jean C Velez, Joshua N Velez, Nayelie Villegas, Michael D Villemaire, Brianne E Walter, Najjah A Whitlock, Jacob T Winkler, Sairi M Wresien, Kelsey P
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## Opportunity Academy Graduates

Agosto,Jonathan Bulgado, Dariana Connor, Morgan Gomez, Elyjah Gonzalez, Denise Hookano-Thach, Jason King, Saoirse Machuca, Milianny Maldonado, Chantaly Martinez, Damian Merino, Cathy	Morales, Selena Perez, Librado Perez, Manuel Ramos Rios, Alexandra Rivera, Franchesca Rivera, Jadakiss Rivera, Jaylees Rivera, Jessica I. Rivera, Kianna Torres, Carlos Velazquez, Rosabel
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## Students committed to play

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abby Glasheen - Westfield State University Soccer</li><li>• Gabriel Fernandez Jr. - Westfield State University Football</li><li>• Jacob Swinehart - Endicott College Football</li><li>• Aiden Consedine - Springfield College Baseball</li><li>• Tori Lopez - University of Maine at Machias Basketball</li><li>• Donovan Kro - American</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• International College Cross Country &amp; Track and Field</li><li>• Cheyenne Dunn - Fitchburg State University Field Hockey</li><li>• Isiah Colon - American International College Baseball</li><li>• Autumn Charnik - Westfield State University Volleyball</li><li>• Nathan Canata - Plymouth State University Baseball</li></ul>
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## HHS Dean Campus Graduating Seniors

Aguirre, Anthony A Andaluz, Norangely Berio Perez, Fred L Berrios Roman, Mileishka M Berrios, Cristalee Brightly - Cruz, Jazmaryann D Carmona, Nashalie N Castillo, Marangeliz Concepcion, Amanda L Cruz Vallenganes, Anagelis Echevarria Bermudez,	Kerianlys Gonzalez, Branden G Gonzalez, Jorge R Gonzalez, Kayla Gutierrez Melendez, Joshua M Heredia, Daisha L Jimenez, Rebecca L Martinez, Brian A Perez Reyes, Nashaly Ramon Maseira, Frency C Ramon Maseira, Mayumi D	Ramos Ortiz, Devin R Rivera Figueroa, Nector M Rivera, Shaina L Rodriguez, Genesis A Rothus, Zachary A Salamanca, Emanuel J Santos, Luis Adrian N Sweeney, Sean P Torres, Damien E Torres, Miguel Vellon, Crystal
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## Class of 2020 National Honor Society

Ayala, Joalis Beauregard, Devin Boria, Christiaan X. Brunette, Charlotte Calderon, Destiny Canata, Nathan Consedine, Aiden Digris, Bailly Dominicci, Adaris Dudas, Jordan Dusseault, Lindsey Garcia Rodriguez, Selena Gonzalez, Jorge	Haradon, Patricia Heath, Keiry Heredia, Yaelisa Hoey, Lindsay Joniec, Acadia Kane, Erika Lukasiewicz, Michael McKenna, Brandon Moises, Abraham, Montesino Arbaje, Ortiz-Baez, Kayra Ostrander, Chloe Ramraykha, Shivani	Shea, John Swinehart, Jacob Troche Rivera, Jeyleen Vargas, Zaiell Velez, Nayelie Wresien, Kelsey
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## The following students earned the Seal of Biliteracy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adaris Dominicci</li><li>• Destiny Feliciano</li><li>• Armando Fontan</li><li>• Anyelika Alvarado</li><li>• Jayleen Troche</li></ul> <p><i>What is the Seal of Biliteracy?</i> The Massachusetts</p>	state Seal of Biliteracy is an award that was established in November 2017 as a way to recognize graduates who have earned proficiently in English as well as another language. Students qualify for the State Seal of Biliteracy when a high school senior has attained pro-
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ficiency in English, met qualifications for graduation, and has passed the state approved language assessment. Through the Seal of Biliteracy, the recognition of attaining biliteracy becomes part of the high school transcript and diploma for these students. The Seal serves to cer-	tify attainment of biliteracy for students, employers, and universities. This expands opportunities as students leave school and are ready to enter college and the workforce. As we expand our Dual Language Program we hope that more HPS students will have the
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opportunity to earn the Seal of Biliteracy . Are you an upcoming senior, interested in learning about the Seal of Biliteracy? Contact your guidance counselor for information about eligibility. You can also take a moment to take the 45-minute test here.
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# Best Wishes to the Class of 2020

## Celebrating Senior Athletes

To celebrate the senior baseball and softball athletes from the Class of 2020 who are missing out on the spring sports season, coaches decorated the baseball and softball field fences with cups to pay tribute to these dedicated athletes. Coach Josh Dupuis arranged the cups to read “HOLYOKE 2020 - GOOD LUCK SENIORS!” and “SOFTBALL” and displayed the seniors’ uniform numbers. Coach Ryan Bowler and Coach Lamirande arranged the cups to display, “THANK YOU SENIORS”, “BASEBALL”, and “GO YOKE”.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to your sports, teammates and coaches! We wish you success as you graduate and begin new adventures! #HolyokeAthleticsStrong

### Senior Athletics Awards

Holyoke HS celebrates our Senior Athletes! It is our pleasure to recognize all our Senior Athletes for their outstanding careers at Holyoke High School! We have watched you grow and improve your skills over the past four years. You have shown us your talent, hard work, teamwork and dedication in your sports. Thank you for the memories! You have made us proud and you have made Holyoke High School a better place. We wish you success in your next journey.

Alfaro, Yanira - Unified Track, 2 years / Volleyball, 2 Years  
Alvarado Lugo, Jaydis - Baseball, 3 Years  
Asselin, Ryan - Football, 4 Years / Wrestling, 2 Years /Baseball, 2 Years  
Ayala, Joalis - Swimming, 3 Years  
Beauregard, Devin - Golf, 4 Years / Volleyball, 3 Years  
Birks, Ari - Unified Basketball, 2 Years / Unified Track, 2 Years  
Blanco, Isis - Fall Cheerleading, 3 Years / Winter Cheerleading, 4 Years  
Boria, Christiaan - Volleyball, 3 Years / Field Hockey, 2 Years  
Boucher-Hendricks, Hannah - Softball, 4 Years  
Brunette, Charlotte - Swimming, 4 Years  
Burgos, Brianna - Volleyball, 3 Years / Track, 2 Years/ Indoor Track, 1 Year / Basketball, 2 Years  
Cabrera, William - Football, 1 Year  
Calderon, Destiny - Volleyball, Basketball, Track  
Canata, Nathan - Golf, 4 Years / Baseball, 4 Years / Indoor Track, 2 Years / Basketball, 1 Year

Carattini, Dereck - Basketball, 2 Years  
Cartwright, Cameron - Golf, 3 Years / Baseball, 3 Years  
Charnik, Autumn - Volleyball, 1 Year  
Colon Martinez, Marilian - Softball, 3 Years / Volleyball, 3 Years /Basketball, 1 Year  
Colon, Isiah - Baseball, 3 Years  
Colon, Victor - Baseball, 2 Years / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
Consedine, Aiden - Football, Basketball, Baseball  
Cortes, Jalen - Wrestling, 1 Year  
Covey, Javin - Wrestling, 1 Year / Soccer, 2 Years  
Cruz, Angel - Baseball, 1 Year  
Cruz, Juan - Football, 1 Year  
Cruz, Pedro - Baseball, 2 Years/ Wrestling, 1 Year/Football, 1 Year  
Darkwah, Richard - Basketball, 1 Year / XC, 1 Year / Baseball-, Years / Wrestling, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
De Jesus-Cruz, Darrian - Baseball, 3 Years  
Diaz, Isaiah - Volleyball, 2 Years  
Diaz-Ofray, Alanis - Softball, 2 Years  
Digris, Bailey - Volleyball, 2 Years / Unified Track, 1 Year / Softball, 1 Year  
Dudas, Jordan - Softball, 4 Years / Soccer, 2 Years  
Dunn, Cheyenne - Field Hockey, 4 Years / Softball,, 4 Years  
Dusseault, Lindsey - XC, 1 Year / Volleyball, 2 Years / Track, 4 Years / Indoor Track, 3 Years  
Echevarria, Jah’heim - Basketball, 1 Year  
Fernandez, Gabriel - Football, 4 Years / Basketball, 2 Years / Indoor Track, 2 Years / Track, 2 Years / Tennis, 1 Year  
Ganious, Marcus- XC, 1 Year / Basketball, 1 Year / Unified Track, 1 Year  
Garcia Rodriguez, Selena - Volleyball, Indoor Track, Track  
Garcia, Melina - Swimming, 4 Years  
Garcia, Rey - Football, 1 Year / Basketball, 1 Year  
Glasheen, Abby - Soccer, 4 Years / Basketball, 4 Years / Track, 2 Years  
Gonzalez Melendez, Bryan - Indoor Track, 1 Year / Baseball, 2 Years  
Gonzalez, Jonathan - Soccer, 2 Years  
Gubala, Brennan - Soccer, 4 Years / Basketball, 2 Years  
Guzman Diaz, Melanie - Fall Cheerleading, 3 Years / Winter Cheerleading, 4 Years / Unified Track, 1 Year / Track, 2 Years / XC, 1 Year  
Haradon, Patricia - Softball, 4 Years

/Soccer, 3 Years  
Heredia, Daisha - Softball, 2 Years  
Hernandez, Alex - Football, 2 Years / Wrestling, 4 Years  
Ibarra, Jesus - Basketball, 2 Years  
Ingle, Elpida - Cheerleading, 2 Years  
Jimenez Camacho, Jorge - Wrestling, 2 Years  
Joniec, Acadia - Swimming, 1 Year / Track, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
Kro, Donovan - XC, 3 Years / Track, 4 Years / Basketball, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 2 Years  
Lagoy, Jaelee - Volleyball, 4 Years / Swimming, 3 Years  
Lewis, George - Swimming, 1 Year  
Lopez, Victoria - Track, 2 Years/ Basketball, 3 Years / Soccer, 4 Years  
Lukasiewicz, Michael - Skiing, 3 Years / Golf, 2 Years /Football, 2 Years / Tennis, 4 Years  
Maldonado Gonzalez, Omaet - Football, 1 Year  
Martelli, Anthony - Soccer, 4 Years  
Mateo Baerga, Rashel - Softball, 3 Years  
Mazzu, Alysson - Soccer, 1 Year  
McKenna, Brandon - Soccer, Basketball, Baseball  
Melendez Troche, Justice - Football, 2 Years  
Meyer, Brenden - Baseball, 3 Years / Golf, 2 Years  
Montesino Arbaje, Moises - Cheerleading, 1 Year  
Mora, Natalie - Soccer, 2 Years / Indoor Track, 2 Years / Track, 2 Years  
Morales, Aliana - Volleyball, 3 Years  
Moreau, Sean - Wrestling, 1 Year  
Moret Salamo, Nayelis - Softball, 4 Years / Basketball, 3 Years / Unified Basketball, 1 Year  
Nadeau, Samantha - Unified Basketball, 2 Years / Unified Track, 4 Years  
Neal, Kayla - Field Hockey, 3 Years / XC, 1 Year  
Nunez, Alethyan - Basketball, 3 Years  
Patel, Ravi - Volleyball, 3 Years / Tennis, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
Perez, Manuel - Wrestling, 1 Year  
Pirela, Dameon - Football, 1 Year  
Pueschel, Aidan - Cross Country, 2 Years  
Ramirez, Jonathan - Football, 2 Years  
Ramraykha, Shivani - Volleyball, 4 Years  
Reardon, Morgan - Soccer, 4 Years / Basketball, 1 Year  
Rivera Jr., Luis - Baseball, 1 Year

Rivera, Jaydah - XC, 1 Year / Track, 4 Years / Indoor Track, 3 Years / Soccer, 3 Years  
Rodriguez, Jordan - Soccer, 4 Years / Baseball, 4 Years  
Roman Soto, Dara - Cross Country, 1 Year  
Roman, Jose - Swimming, 4 Years  
Saez, Feliberto - Football, 1 Year / Volleyball, 3 Years / Swim, 1 Year / Soccer, 1 Year  
Sanabria-Ramos, Osiris - Wrestling, 1 Year  
Santiago, Kiaralys - Volleyball, 4 Years / Basketball, 4 Years / Track, 3 Years  
Santiago, Marvin - Football, 1 Year  
Santos, Adam - Football, 1 Year  
Santos, Ohndrae - Football, 1 Year  
Serrano, David - Indoor Track, 2 Years / Soccer, 2 Years / Track, 2 Years  
Serrano, Giamara - Volleyball, 1 Year  
Shea, John - X-Country, Indoor Track, Track  
Sheehan, Morgan - Soccer, 4 Years / Basketball,, 3 Years / Track, 4 Years / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
Smith-Antuna, Javaughn - Basketball, 4 Years / Track, 1 Year / Volleyball, 1 Year  
Stark, Greyson - Swimming, 3 Years / Baseball, 1 Year  
Stevenson, Adam - Soccer, 4 Years / Indoor Track, 2 Years / Track, 1 Year  
Swinehart, Jacob - Football, 4 Years / Swim, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 3 Years / Track, 2 Years  
Tenesaca, Marcus - Soccer, 1 Year  
Thomas, Caleb - Fall Cheerleading, 1 Year / Winter Cheerleading, 1 Year  
Torres, Alesandra - Cheerleading, 1 Year / Soccer, 1 Year  
Torres, Tiana - Soccer, 2 Years  
Vargas, Zaiell - Basketball, 2 Years  
Vega, Francesca - Indoor Track, 1 Year / Cross Country, 1 Year  
Velez, Nayelie - Volleyball, 3 Years / XC, 1 Year / Basketball, 3 Years / Track, 3 Years / Softball, 1 Year  
Villegas, Michael - Track, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 1 Year  
Villemaire, Brianne - Softball, 2 Years  
Walter, Najjah - Track, 1 Year  
Winkler, Sairi - Field Hockey, 3 Years  
Wresien, Kelsey - Soccer, 4 Years / Track, 2 Years / Indoor Track, 2 Years  
Young, Leighton - Cross Country, 1 Year / Indoor Track, 1 Year

## Students who participated in Internships

Adamczyk, Abigail - Therapeutic Equestrian Therapy  
Alvarez Torres, Iliana M - Holyoke Medical Center  
Ayala, Joalis M - The Performance Project  
Canata, Nathan - Holyoke Parks and Recreation  
Cartwright, Cameron - CGJ Landsapping  
Colon Martinez, Marilian - Holyoke Medical Center  
Covey, Javin A - Painting Company  
Felix, Julio - SODEXO  
Figueroa, Victor - McDonalds  
Garcia Rodriguez, Selena C - PHENOM  
Glasheen, Abby - Pediatrician  
Joenic, Acadia - Dance Studio  
Lukasiewicz, Michael R - Stefanik Elementary (CPS)  
Ojeda, Neshalee M - Holyoke Medical Center  
Ortiz Baez, Kayra M - Caretaker  
Ortiz, Samuel - Boys and Girls Club

Patel, Ravi - Holyoke Medical Center  
Raganoonanan, Kristin - Holyoke Medical Center  
Ramos, Devan - HHS Dean Campus  
Resto Ruiz, Maryangelis - Holyoke Medical Center  
Rivas, Rafael A - Daybrook Village(nursing home)  
Rivera Ortiz, Alanis - HPS Department  
Rivera Rivera, Yuliana - Homework House  
Rodriguez, Nayeliss F - Holyoke High School  
Rondon Rivera, Gamalieris - Therapeutic Equestrian Therapy  
Santana Ashanti - Homework House  
Sheehan, Morgan A - The Plan Salon  
Smith, Brian A - Berkshire Heating and Airconditioning  
Wresien, Kelsey - Holyoke Medical Center

### Students who participated in Co-Ops

Jorge Gonzalez, Anthony Aguirre, Marangeliz Castillo, Norangely Anduluz, Anagelis Cruz Vallellanes, Kayla Gonzalez, Cristalee Berrios, Fred Berio Perez

### Propel Fellows

Anthony Soto & Matthew Santiago are a part of the Propel Fellow program, a competitive new program in partnership with Propel America. Students qualify for the fellowship which consists of 10 months of training at Springfield Technical Community College, a stipend, and a job placement as a laser technician.

### Essential Workers

Anagelis Cruz Vallellanes, Kayla Gonzalez, Fred Berio Perez, Zach Rothus

## Future Plans

According to surveys that have been completed by our seniors, the Class of 2020 has the following post-graduate plans:

- 97 plan to attend a 4-year college
- 73 plan to attend a 2-year college
- 8 plan to attend the military
- 13 plan to attend Technical School
- 2 plan to attend Transitions Academy
- 29 plan to join the work force
- 7 are unknown





# Best Wishes to the Class of 2020

## Holyoke High School North Campus Student Government



President:  
Melina Garcia



Vice President:  
Acadia Joniec



Secretary:  
Jordan Dudas

"Leaders become great not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others."



Marshal:  
Jose Roman



Treasurer:  
Patricia Haradon

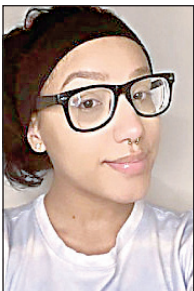
"I'm looking for our graduation. I'll let you know if I've found it."



Adviser:  
Mr. Bechard

"This has been a very active year for Student Government at HHS North. We have continued to participate in long-standing traditions, as well as create new opportunities. Even before the school year officially started, we helped Ms. Brunelle film an expectations video. We also helped create a more student driven freshmen elections, several events at the Holyoke Soldiers Home, acted as tour guides for 8th grade visits, and the reverse job shadow for 9th grade. In addition, we facilitated change by helping reverse the school hat policy, provided student voice for selecting a new reciever, registering more than 100 new voters, and meeting with a dietician from Sodexo to talk about possible options for breakfast and lunch. Finally we ran a clothing drive for Lawrence School, and will be providing tutoring for families during the extended break brought on by the coronavirus."

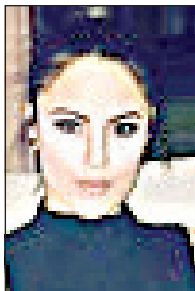
## Dean Campus North Campus Student Government



President:  
Genesis Rodriguez

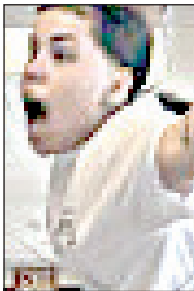


Vice President:  
Shaina Rivera



Secretary:  
Mileishka Berrios

"Being a part of Student Governemnt has been a great experience for me, being part of the big decisions for the school has been very empowering."



Marshal:  
Jennilee Espada



Treasurer:  
Daisha Heredia

"Success doesn't just come and find you, you have to go out and get it."



Adviser:  
Mr. Hitzfeld

"This has been a groundbreaking year for HHS Dean Campus as it has been the first year Student Government was active at Dean in a few years. In this year of new beginnings and new ideas we saw the Student Government make morning announcements, coordinate and run fundraisers, host spirit weeks and new "Spirit Fridays." Student government also successfully advocated for policy changes and privileges, this included cell phone policies and co-facilitating recess during lunch. Very importantly, Student Government hosted and ran large portions of our monthly Town Halls alongside Reconnecting Youth and vocational shops. Senior student body president Genesis Rodriguez and Junior student body president Marcus Tenesaca gave monthly "State of the School" addresses to the entire Dean community as well. Student Government even successfully met regularly during our extended time away from school this Spring. While much work was left unfinished, the entire student government looks optimistically to next year where they seek to further impact HHS Dean Campus in positive ways!"

**BE BOLD. BE COURAGEOUS. BE YOUR BEST.**

*Congratulations Class of 2020!*



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**The Bresnahan Insurance Family Congratulates the Class of 2020!**



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- David McCullough, Jr.

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**413-549-1100**

*Congrats to* **PAIGE HAMELIN**



Honors graduate of  
Elms College, 2020.  
We are so very proud  
of your diligent  
efforts and academic  
achievements!

*Love, Greg, Mom  
& David*

**Congratulations GRADUATES!**



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*You did it!*

**Class of 2020**  
**Congratulations**

*from the staff at*

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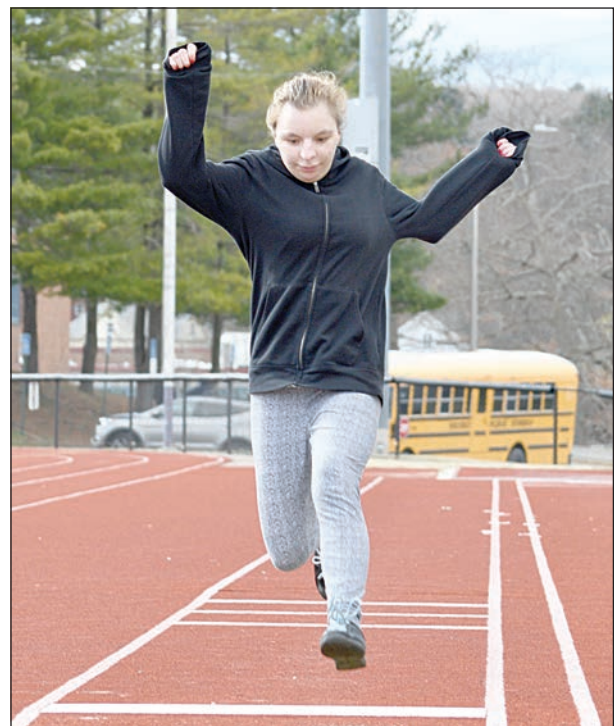
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## Unified track celebrates senior members

The Holyoke High School Unified Track team has become a popular program very quickly at the high school, joining with area schools to provide an outstanding track experience for its participants. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, Unified Track did not hold any meets this year. Coach Jordan Lemieux shared her thoughts on Ari Birks and Samantha Nadeau for their contributions to the program, "Although our season was canceled due to the virus, it was a pleasure to get to coach Ari and Sam last year and to follow them during their senior year. These two young ladies gave their all for their team and never failed to smile and brighten everyone's day. Thank you for the privilege of being your coach."

File photos



## TMC postpones MaxPreps use this fall

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
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REGION – With COVID-19 completely cancelling out the Spring 2020 season for all high school sports, there has been little opportunity to continue working at integrating new changes set for the upcoming school year and next.

One of those changes has been postponed for the upcoming fall season.

In late February, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association's member schools voted to go to a state-wide tournament. The majority vote took place Feb. 28 and uprooted a tournament Western Massachusetts was used to having for many years.

Further, the "Walker" system, a ranking system formula utilized in Western Mass. as well as some Central Mass. sports, was scrapped in favor of MaxPreps, a CBS-sponsored

website that tracks schedules, rosters, results and playing statistics. MaxPreps also has a proprietary rankings system that would have been utilized to determine playoff seeds for the new state tournament.

Many have questioned whether or not the system was fair, especially considering the diversity of the schools in Western Mass., the main reasons the Walker system was created.

Now, the MIAA's Tournament Management Committee has voted to postpone the use of the MaxPreps ranking system for at least the 2020 fall season. As a result, Western and some Central Mass. sports will utilize the Walker system to rank teams for sectional tournaments. Eastern Mass. schools typically rank by overall record with tiebreakers for similar records.

The MaxPreps site will still be used to input scores for the entire school year and then

MaxPreps will be used for all aspects of the tournament as the statewide tournament is set to begin in the 2021-2022 school year.

There was a movement at the TMC's June 18 online meeting not to use MaxPreps for the entire school year, but that motion was defeated. The body, which had 12 members present, voted unanimously to postpone it for just the fall.

The fall season was not in question when the coronavirus pandemic first started in March. But as the situation developed, upcoming seasons has come into question because of the extended need to control large gatherings, the continued need for masks, and the idea that life cannot truly return to normal until a vaccine is created. That could take until sometime next year.

The use of MaxPreps as a

See MAXPREPS, page 10

## NECBL alums drafted by MLB

NORTH ADAMS – Despite the 2020 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft being shortened to five rounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) saw eight of its alumni selected during the two-day event followed by nearly 20 others inking free agent contracts in the days that followed.

The Newport Gulls boasted five of the eight NECBL alumni who had their name called over the course of the draft, including 2019 outfielder Hudson Haskin (Tulane) going 39th overall in the second round. Meanwhile, Jared Schuster (Wake Forest), who played in the New England League in 2018 with the New Bedford Bay Sox, kept the NECBL's strong reputation of first-round selections intact after being picked by the Atlanta Braves with the 25th overall pick; the southpaw

is the 29th all-time NECBL alumnus to earn a first-round draft curtain call.

In addition to Newport's five draft selections, as well as New Bedford's representation through Schuster, NECBL organizations Upper Valley and Vermont also had one alumnus drafted each, as the Nighthawks saw 2018 right-hander Levi Thomas (Troy) go in the fourth round (109th overall) to the San Diego Padres, while the Mountaineers' 2019 NECBL All-Star, righty Ryan Murphy (Le Moyne), went in the fifth round (144th overall).

At the conclusion of the draft, another 17 NECBL alumni spanning each of the last three seasons signed free agent contracts with a variety of MLB franchises. In total, nine of the league's 13 active organizations from the 2019 campaign had at least one

See NECBL, page 10



# Thunderbirds celebrated growth during 2019-2020 season

SPRINGFIELD – Today, the American Hockey League announced that the Springfield Thunderbirds have been named the league’s Ticket Sales Department of the Year and also recognized the franchise for achieving 15% growth in group ticket revenue for the 2019-2020 season.

“We are truly proud to receive this award from the AHL. Ticket sales growth is only possible through the hard work of our sales team and the commitment of our fan base. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our staff and our community

for continuing to support us through this season and beyond,” said Nathan Costa, President of the Thunderbirds.

The T-Bird’s fourth season saw a continued upward trajectory for the franchise, which is a product of the team’s ongoing commitment to fan and community engagement. This year, the T-Birds ranked second in the AHL in year over year growth in both total revenue and total tickets sales. The team placed in the Top 5 in year over year growth across all ticket categories: total sales, full season tickets, group sales, partial plans, and individual

ticket sales.

Since the team’s inception in 2016, they have achieved a staggering 87% growth in ticket revenue. This past season, they celebrated a new milestone of over 1,000 full season ticket members, achieved eight sellouts, and averaged 5,262 fans per game. This marked the team’s second straight year with over 5,000 average attendance.

The announcement was made as part of the month-long 2020 AHL Team Business Spring Series. The 2020 AHL Team Business Spring Series, running

May 19 through June 19, is a program of online presentations and discussions being hosted by the league’s Team Business Services department. Team and league front-office personnel from throughout the American Hockey League meet each offseason to discuss best practices and innovative ideas in several areas, including ticket sales, corporate sales and marketing.

For more information or to become a 2020-2021 Springfield Thunderbirds ticket member, call (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or visit [www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com](http://www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com).

## Senior athlete features wrapping up

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
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The Turley Publications sports department will soon be wrapping up its features on senior spring athletes

If you have not seen your senior or their sport featured, we encouraged you to send photos and info on your son or daughter, and encourage you to contact their coach to speak with us.

We have reached out to spring coaches and athletic directors, but are still trying to collect info on every team that would

have been involved in this spring’s season.

We hope to also publish action photos of seniors from previous seasons, though parents and coaches are encouraged to send photos of seniors they would like to see published in the upcoming editions of the paper.

All submissions can be made to Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at [sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com). In the subject line, please identify the school and sport you are writing in about. Senior athletes are also encouraged to write in to talk about the season that wasn’t.



### Send Us Your Sports Photos!

[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. Protects from weather

4. Superhigh frequency

7. Southern constellation

8. Swines

10. Self-righteously moralistic person

12. United Arab Emirates city

13. Surinam toad

14. Sign language

16. Tattoo (slang)

17. Makes level

19. Sun up in New York

20. It must be scratched

21. Where people live

25. Swiss river

26. Buddy

27. One of two equal parts of a

29. Shrek is one

30. Egyptian unit of weight

31. Fiddler crabs

32. Carroll O’Connor’s TV wife

39. No longer having life

41. Former OSS

42. A way to emit sound

43. Mandela’s party

44. Adult female chicken

45. U. of Miami’s mascot

46. Southeastern Chinese people

48. Casino game

49. Amos Alonzo \_\_\_\_

50. Joint connecting two pipes at right

### CLUES DOWN

1. Occur

2. Show up

3. Capital of Taiwan

4. Former French coin

5. Some are bad

6. Monetary unit

8. Package (abbr.)

9. Indian religious person

11. Crew

14. Antidiuretic hormone

15. Makeshift

18. Baseball box score stat

19. Make a mistake

20. Not moving

22. Even distribution

23. Clumsy person

24. Paddle

27. Worked the soil

28. Alias

29. Plant cultivated in Peru

31. Side-blotched lizards genus

32. Wild dog

33. Immoral act

34. Pound

35. Manning and Lilly are two

36. Put on the shelf for now

37. Baltimore ballplayer

38. Cuddle

39. Dashes

40. Related on the mother’s side

44. Witch

47. Kilogram force (abbr.)

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 13

## Quabbin League hoping for July start

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The cost of the league this season is \$192. For returning and new players, sign-ups have been placed on hold until a determination has been made on the season

going forward. Sign-ups should resume soon. Based on the governor’s re-open plan, the league is aiming for a start to the season in mid-July with a modified schedule. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass. For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

## Valley Wheel Baseball tryouts ongoing

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother’s Day Saturday game in early May. However, due to the current circumstances, the league schedule has been pushed back. The league

still plans to play its season once bans on gatherings are lifted. League tryouts are June 28 with a possible additional tryout scheduled. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends. If interested in trying out, go to [www.valleywheelbaseball.com](http://www.valleywheelbaseball.com). The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site. For further information, you can contact the league’s commissioner, Jim Nason at [wheel12@comcast.net](mailto:wheel12@comcast.net) or call him at (413) 433-4308. New players are still needed for the abbreviated season

### NECBL, from page 9

alumnus either drafted or sign as a free agent highlighted by the Gulls’ seven such honorees, while Mystic led the way with five free agent signees.

“Given the circumstances and the adversity that not only our league but each and every summer collegiate baseball league has had to endure this season, we could not be more proud of each and every one of our alumni that were either drafted or signed as free agents after this past weekend,” NECBL Commissioner Sean McGrath stated. “No doubt will we continue to see more familiar faces do similarly in the days

and weeks ahead, but regardless, I am so thrilled for all the young men who have been rewarded for their hard work and dedication not only during their time in the New England League but throughout their collegiate careers, both on the diamond and in the classroom. The best of luck to each of them as they pursue the first chapter of what will hopefully be long professional baseball careers!”

A league-high four players either were drafted or signed by the Baltimore Orioles, while three had their name called by the Seattle Mariners and two apiece went to the San Francisco Giants, Toronto Blue Jays and defending World Series champion Washington Nationals.

### MAXPREPS, from page 9

unifying system is reliant on the coaches and athletic directors making sure scores and statistics are entered into the website in a timely manner.

There are still multiple steps to go before a full 32-team (in most cases) state tournament is implemented. The PVIAC is also still looking to develop an alternative to the departing Western

Mass. tournament. The hope is when meetings are able to resume on a more regular basis, those discussions will be able to continue in a productive manner.

Schedules have been set by athletic directors for the fall season, however, it remains to be seen what guidance the state will issue as it relates to athletic contests. It also remains to be seen how high school athletics will adjust to state guidance on classroom time, which may be partially remote this fall.

### FLY, from page 4

similarity or our new-normal reality applies to what we all are experiencing with COVID-19’s current safety admonitions of: “Sheltering in place,” “Wearing masks to safeguard yourself and others,” and to “Keep practicing safe-distancing.”

As the 2020 summer days progress, the barn swallow nestlings will stir, their parents will tend to their needs, and within about three days

after hatching their eyes will open and see a new world.

Recent school and college graduates likewise appear to have a reoccurring comparison. The nests that nurtured them have been preparing each one to see the world, with the abiding support and guidance of those who have cherished, raised, taught and trained them. And, we’ll all be cheering them on – with encouraging words and conversations – when the feather-nested fledglings fly.



# 'Friends' of Robinson State Park update status of grounds

AGAWAM – The Friends of Robinson State Park released a status update on the use and availability of Robinson State Park.

1. Park's main road opened on Memorial Day. The park's seasonal road, dubbed "River Road", where the access gate is near the park's swimming pond, will remain closed for the 2020 season to vehicle use. Passive use only.

2. Park is open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. until Labor Day. After Labor Day, hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

3. There has been no charge for vehicle access, but that is expected to change by June 27. June 20 at the earliest.

4. Vehicle access fees are based on a vehicle's state of registration and not the state of origin of the people on board:

- In state day use: \$8
- Out of state day use: \$30, this is an increase from \$15 last season
- In state season pass: \$60, gets your vehicle in at all DCR facilities
- Out of state season pass: \$120
- Senior pass (age 62 and over, MA residents only): \$10 good for life as long as you don't lose it. Lose it, purchase a new one.
- Second car annual pass: \$25 (allows you to swap the season pass to another vehicle, only 1 vehicle admitted at a time)

Many local libraries and Parks/

Recreation Departments allow you to borrow state park vehicle passes for free.

5. Park's beach "Robinson Beach" scheduled to officially open for swimming on June 13th. NO Lifeguards, and DCR has no plans on reinstating life-guards at Robinson.

6. Picnic tables and the pavilion. As of June 8 there were no directives from DCR administration to put tables out, though that may change. Trestle Pavilion rentals will not be allowed this season and no picnic tables will be placed inside. There is nothing prohibiting people from using grilling stations throughout the park or bringing their own table top grill, chairs etc..and setting up outside, but DCR encourages best practices with social distancing. Trash...carry in / carry out.

7. Restroom building, which has running water will be open and cleaned at least once daily per DCR directives. There will be no portable toilets this season.

8. The park is managed full time, year-round by Andy Gloss. He is the only year-round full-time staff. Andy is allotted seasonal staff during the summer months, but their numbers vary season to season and can create challenges maintaining Robinson. Due to this year's staffing level, the crew's main focus will be essential maintenance and services. Trail maintenance will not be a

priority. People interested with volunteer trail maintenance can call Paul Jahnige at DCR in Northampton. Trails director. 413-586-8706 ext # 20 and/or Andy at the park headquarters 413-786-2877. Volunteers need to be sanctioned and sign-off on a waiver.

In addition to maintaining Robinson, Robinson's staff also maintain the grounds at the Gerald J. Mason Memorial Pool on Maynard Street, Agawam. A DCR facility.

9. Illegal partying. Night partying at Robinson has been an on-going issue for the past year. Teens and young adults in their 20s. The parties often support illicit and malicious activities including bonfires within the park's two historic CCC pavilions, which place the structures at risk of catching on fire. If you observe night parties, please contact MA State Police in Springfield 413-736-8390 or the DCR Park Watch dispatch center 24/7 at 866-759-2824. Add these numbers to your cell phone contact list.

10. Kayak/canoe launch beach. It's open. No restrictions.

\*\* park fields are open for recreational activities such as wiffle ball and frisbee. Please keep group sizes appropriate.

11. Over the past year DCR has been removing or pruning hazard trees along the park's roads. An Eagle Scout rehabbed the backstop at the Trestle

Pavilion Field, removing thick overgrowth and improving the chainlink backstop. The footbridge leading to the canoe/kayak beach is showing its age with deficient decking. Park staff is aware. Please use caution with weak or missing boards. Andy (park manager) pursued DCR funds to rehab the interior of the park's headquarters building.

12. Wildlife. Anyone who frequents Robinson knows the park is home to a rich variety of wildlife. You never know what you may see, including sightings of moose, which are rare and black bear. There has been a lone male bear roaming and several reported sightings of a sow with 2 cubs, and one report of 3 cubs. On the park's roads and trails be "bear aware". If you encounter black bear, stay calm, give them space, don't run and slowly back away. Keep dogs under control. NEVER feed bears. You can report black bear sightings to park staff at 413-786-2877. Attached is a photo posted Thursday June 18th of the lone male bear, courtesy of Lynda Blanchet-Hill on the Robinson State Park FaceBook page.

Robinson Pond is a great place for people of all ages to explore and observe aquatic life and birds, including the occasional heron. Fireflies are showing themselves early this season in spotty sections of the park. Magnificent to observe at night. They are very habitat sensitive.

## Governor Charlie Baker issues proclamation marking Juneteenth

BOSTON – Gov. Charlie Baker recently issued a proclamation declaring June 19, 2020 as "Juneteenth Independence Day" in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. Celebrated each year on June 19, Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States, and is an opportunity to reflect on the need to continue working toward racial justice.



Gov. Charlie Baker

"Juneteenth is a chance for us all to reflect on this country's painful history of slavery and the systemic impact that racial injustice continues to have today," Baker said. "It is also an opportunity to recommit ourselves to the goal of creating a more equal and just society. As our country continues the national conversation around racial injustice, it is especially important that we recognize Juneteenth. I look forward to working with our legislative colleagues to recognize this important day more widely going forward."

Juneteenth is recognized each year on June 19. On that day in 1865, Major Gen. Gordon Granger and his Union

troops landed in Galveston, Texas, and announced that the Civil War had ended. Gordon read a proclamation declaring that all enslaved people were free. The first Juneteenth was celebrated a year later in Texas and today is recognized across the country to mark this important milestone.

M.G.L. Chapter 6, Section 15BBBBB states, "The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the nineteenth of June as Juneteenth Independence Day, to be observed on the Sunday that is closest to June 19th of each year, in recognition of June 19, 1865 when Union General Gordon Granger announced freedom for all slaves in the Southwestern United States and in recognition of the end of slavery in the United States as well as the significant contributions individuals of African descent have made to the Commonwealth and to the United States and recommending that said day be observed in an appropriate manner by the people."

## Baystate Health announces new visitor guidelines as of June 15

SPRINGFIELD – As Massachusetts continues its re-opening process and begins to lift restrictions on businesses and healthcare organizations, Baystate Health is announcing, effective Monday, June 15, new inpatient and outpatient visitor guidelines.

"We are eager to welcome back visitors and to create a more healing environment for all with policies that are necessary to protect the health and safety of our patients and staff," said Nancy Shendell-Falik, RN, MA, president of Baystate Medical Center and vice president of operations for Baystate Health.

Visitation hours are daily from noon to 8 p.m.

Non-COVID patients at Baystate Medical Center, Baystate Noble Hospital, Baystate Wing Hospital and Baystate Franklin Medical Center are allowed one visitor at a time in the hospital. Obstetrics patients who are in labor can have one birthing partner or one visitor.

Baystate Children's Hospital will now allow one parent/guardian or one visitor at a time (only one person will be allowed in the patient's room at a

time).

No visitors are allowed for COVID patients at all hospitals, except:

- Patients under the age of 18 are allowed one parent or guardian.
- Obstetrics patients who are in labor are allowed one birthing partner.
- Hospice patients and end-of-life patients are allowed one person or one clergy member per day.
- Intellectually/physically disabled patients are allowed one companion.

Visitors will not be permitted in common areas such as waiting rooms, cafeterias or gift shops, and must travel directly to and from the patient's room when entering and leaving the hospital.

For patients attending outpatient appointments or visiting outpatient practices, no companions are allowed except:

- One parent/guardian for a patient 18-years-old or younger.
- One caretaker for a completely dependent patient.

All visitation is at the discretion of Baystate Health.

For the latest information on visitor guidelines, visit baystatehealth.org/visitors.

## Legislators file bill to halt MassHealth estate recovery, to protect families

BOSTON – State Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton) and Rep. Christine Barber (D-Somerville) announced the recent filing of new legislation to protect the families of deceased MassHealth patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under federal law, MassHealth – the commonwealth's Medicaid program – is required to collect its costs from estates of members who received long-term care services in nursing homes. But Massachusetts is one of a few states in the nation that goes beyond this federal mandate and collects money from all MassHealth recipients over age 55, regardless of whether they were in a nursing home.

The new legislation temporarily halts the most problematic aspects of estate

recovery during the COVID-19 state of emergency. The bill gives families additional time to navigate the process, waives accumulating interest on the claim and lets descendants remain living in the family home.

Springfield Community Legal Aid Advocacy Coordinator Peter Benjamin offers that the commonwealth's so-called "estate recovery" protocols, "put MassHealth recipients, who are low-income working and disabled people, in the position of knowing that every time they get needed medical services, they are making it more likely that the state will try to take away the one asset they hope to pass on to their families: their homes."

MassHealth has been pursuing estate recovery throughout the COVID-19 crisis,

forcing families to negotiate the complicated probate and waiver process at a time when courts are closed, home sales are difficult and relocation may be unsafe. Estate recovery adds to the already disparately high burden of COVID-19 on low-income and disabled Massachusetts residents.

"I'm filing this legislation in partnership with Rep. Barber in honor of constituents who fought and won a battle to hang on to a family home. People who are ill should not have to choose between getting the medical care that they need and deserve and keeping their home secure for their children," Comerford said.

The bill has been endorsed by the Massachusetts chapter of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys,

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Massachusetts Councils on Aging, Massachusetts Senior Action Council, Massachusetts Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, and Mass Home Care.

The bill aims to extend the timeline for the estate's personal representative to respond to MassHealth from 60 days to 180 days and would waive the 12 percent interest charged on the MassHealth claims. Additionally, it would prohibit MassHealth from taking action to compel the sale of real estate if someone is currently residing in the home and the bill sunsets 180 days after the current state-of-emergency ends.

The legislation is expected to advance to the Legislature's Joint Committee on Health Care Financing for consideration.



# Summertime activities in the new pandemic world

SPRINGFIELD – Summer officially began June 21, but already with the recent Memorial Day holiday, people around the country flocked to open beaches, packed open bars and restaurants, and attended backyard barbecues.

But, many left one important aspect behind – safety in the “new normal” of COVID-19.

“The warmer weather has arrived and as states relax their stay-at-home orders it’s only normal for people to want to enjoy the fresh air, get some exercise and participate in sports, as well as reconnect with friends and family,” said Dr. Armando Paez, chief of the Infectious Diseases Division at Baystate Medical Center.

“However, we need to remember that COVID-19 is still very much in our communities and it’s imperative until we have a vaccine to continue to wear a face mask and maintain social distancing,” he added.

To help keep families safe this summer, Paez answers some common questions.

**Q: Is it safe to go to the beach this summer and what precautions would you recommend?**

A: Visiting the beach varies in risk depending upon the circumstances. As best we know, there is little risk of catching COVID-19 from jumping into the salty ocean water for a swim. What is of concern are the videos we saw on Memorial Day weekend of crowded beaches, where there was little social distancing and many not wearing masks. I cannot stress enough the need to maintain social distancing and wearing a mask. Currently, there is no evidence yet that COVID-19 can be spread to humans through most recreational water, and thus, there is no recommendation that you need to wear any facemask going down into

the water. Additional concerns are high-touch bathhouses at the seashore, boardwalks where people congregate, and food stands and restaurants. Consider packing your own meal for the beach, don’t forget your hand sanitizer, and, as always, protect yourself from the sun’s damaging rays by applying sunscreen regularly.

**Q: Is it safe to cool off in a public pool, one at a hotel, or at someone’s home other than your own?**

A: Who doesn’t want to cool off in a pool this summer, especially if you have no air conditioning at home. It’s also fun and all that splashing around can be physically healthy. But, not all public pools will open this summer. It is important to note, however, that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, chlorine in the water should kill the virus. What is of concern is maintaining social distancing while in a crowded pool, perhaps much easier for an adult than children. There are also a number of high-touch areas to consider, such as railings, lounge chairs (which should be at least six feet apart), and in changing rooms and at the snack bar where the coronavirus can still live. While it may not be practical to wear a mask in the water, I would certainly wear one outside of the pool. You need to be comfortable with the family whose home you are visiting, as well as others they have invited to enjoy their pool. Just as at the beach, don’t forget your sunscreen and hand sanitizer.

**Q: If I’m outdoors running or walking, do I need to wear a mask? They are hard to breathe in and exercise makes it harder.**

A: There’s nothing like a good cardiovascular workout offered by running or a brisk walk. If you are out in the neighborhood having yourself a healthy walk,

I think it is fine not to wear a mask, but you still may want to carry one with you just in case you see someone you want to speak with. On the other hand, if you are walking along more congested city sidewalks, then it’s a good idea to wear your mask. Runners should also practice social distancing and wearing a mask will depend on how congested the area is where you are running. Definitely wear a mask if with someone or in a group. Still, running alone is probably best during the pandemic. If you find it hard to breathe when running with a mask, try to find a trail that will allow you to run by yourself without the need to wear a mask. Otherwise, it may be better to find an alternative activity.

**Q: What about playing baseball, basketball and other sports with friends or more organized sports?**

A: Group sports with friends and others at the park or in backyards such as baseball, basketball, soccer, and football are risky because they are contact sports and difficult to maintain social distancing and transmission of COVID-19, as opposed to tennis and other racquet sports or golf. The CDC currently recommends on its website: “No organized sports or activities, given the many challenges of containing the virus in group settings. In general, most organized activities and sports such as basketball, baseball, soccer, and football that are held on park fields, open areas, and courts are not recommended during times in which individuals are encouraged or required to practice social distancing. These activities and sports typically require coaches and athletes who are not from the same household or living unit to be in close proximity, which increases their potential for exposure to COVID-19.”

**Q: Is hiking safe? Do I need to**

**wear a mask if hiking with others or alone?**

A: The physical activity of hiking in the great outdoors can energize the spirit, mind and body. In general, you probably don’t need to wear a mask if hiking alone or with someone from your household. If it’s an organized group hike, I would recommend wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing. Even if you are hiking alone, it’s a good idea to carry a mask with you in case you visit a crowded public area.

**Q: Should I attend a backyard barbecue/party if invited?**

A: Having a small outdoor gathering like a backyard barbecue or party with other people from different households who come from the same local area carries small risk for getting COVID-19. It is recommended to remain spaced at least six feet apart and wear cloth face coverings, and not share objects. While the CDC recently stated that the chance of transmission of COVID-19 from surfaces is not as great as they once thought, the virus can still be transmitted by touching a surface with the virus and then touching your mouth, nose or eyes.

As far as summer vacations are concerned, the CDC still recommends staying at home as much as possible, especially if you are in the high risk category for catching COVID-19. Paez said if you do intend on visiting destinations that require air, train, bus, or even car or RV travel, the CDC offers practical tips to travel safely on its website at cdc.gov.

“Remember, whatever you decide whether staying home or traveling, it’s important to unplug from work and rejuvenate with time off this summer,” said Paez.

For more information on Baystate Health, visit baystatehealth.org.

## Community Foundation delivers funds for COVID-19 relief

SPRINGFIELD – In its 10th round of grant funding for COVID-19 relief, the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts recently delivered nearly \$950,000 to local nonprofits to address immediate needs in the community. The latest round of funding targets community centers, food security and education services.

To date, the Community Foundation has awarded more than \$4 million in grants to address the needs of nonprofits serving on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis.

Nonprofits that received grants in this round will use the funds for PPE and related supplies; food; community outreach and health education; trauma/recovery support for front-line workers and those impacted by COVID-19; stress-reduction resources; and basic needs. Among the 29 Western Massachusetts nonprofits that received grants are Catholic Charities Agency of the Diocese of Springfield, Enlace de Familias de Holyoke/Holyoke Family Network, Gandara Mental Health Center, Greater Springfield Senior Services Inc., Holyoke Community College Foundation, Multicultural Community Services of the Pioneer

Valley, Springfield Rescue Mission, Springfield Technical Community College Foundation, and the Trauma Institute & Child Trauma Institute.

The Response Fund has raised \$6.3 million from 630 donors, including foundations, businesses and individuals, and has received resources from the statewide Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund, which has provided \$2.8 million in funding to support the Community Foundation’s response to the pandemic crisis in the region.

The Community Foundation is requesting applications from local nonprofits for its continued grant-making in the coming weeks and months. Organizations seeking grants for resources due to the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to complete a short online application on the Community Foundation website at <http://communityfoundation.org/request-for-information/>. New grants are awarded every week.

The Community Foundation welcomes additional donations to the COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley. All donations go to community needs. Gifts can be made online at [www.communityfoundation.org/covid19](http://www.communityfoundation.org/covid19).

## Massachusetts unemployment claims decrease over prior week

Massachusetts had 29,984 individuals file an initial claim for standard Unemployment Insurance from June 7 to June 13, a decrease of 14,676 over the previous week, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development reports.

Since March 15, a total of 998,883 initial claims have been filed for UI. Following two consecutive weeks of decline, continued UI claims at 569,434 was up 3,541 from the previous week.

At 15,892, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance initial claims filed for the week ending June 13 were 5,099 less than the previous week, the third week in a row. Since April 20, 609,960 claimants have filed an initial claim for PUA.

The Pandemic Emergency

Unemployment Compensation, which provided up to 13 weeks of extended benefits was implemented on May 21. For the week ending June 13, 3,647 PEUC initial claims were filed bringing the total of PEUC filings to 50,592 since implementation.

Since March, the customer service staff at the Department of Unemployment Assistance has grown from around 50 employees to nearly 2000. The remote customer service operation is now making over 35,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host unemployment town halls – which have been held in English, Spanish, and Portuguese – and have been attended by around 350,000 constituents.

## ► Holyoke Arrests

*The Holyoke Police Department recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.*

### Monday, June 15

Mariangely Robles, 25, of 388 Appleton St., Holyoke, was arrested at 11:24 a.m. on a default warrant.

Joseph Russell, 31, of 161 Pine St., Amherst, was arrested at 8:04 p.m. for wantonly injuring property, assault with a dangerous weapon, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and an equipment violation.

Leonard Jackson, 25, of 212 Eastern Apt., Springfield, was arrested for possession of ammunition without an FID card, possession, carrying, storing, and discharging a firearm, and destruction of property.

### Tuesday, June 16

Jamie Rivera, 44, of 44 Chester St.,

Springfield, was arrested at 10:37 a.m. on a warrant.

### Wednesday, June 17

Carlos Santiago, 27, of 558 S. Summer St., Holyoke, was arrested at 2:27 a.m. for disorderly conduct.

Sylvester Huderski, 60, of 173 Elm St., Holyoke, was arrested at 4:45 p.m. for disorderly conduct and trespassing.

Multiple juveniles were arrested at 5:40 p.m. for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, destruction of property, disorderly conduct, and other charges.

Exavier Ramos, 20, of 94 Sycamore St., Holyoke, was arrested at 5:40 p.m. for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct, and destruction of property.

*Submissions are always welcome.*

Send us your engagement, wedding, baby, anniversary and graduation news and photos.

*The Holyoke Sun*  
email: [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com)



TEACHER, from page 1

as Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry. They also learned elements of design like shape, color, form, and space; as well as principles of design like balance, emphasis, patterns, and contrast.

“Students were able to use a variety of skills when manipulating the material and were able to add their own interpretation for the design of the tree house.” Descoteau said. “It was well received by the students as a hands-on project that was worked on persistently over a period of time.”

While working within the unit students studied photos of both Wright and Gehry’s building styles, as well as looking at photos of tree houses that have been built in different parts of the world. Students got creative in building their projects; including making tubes out of newspaper to function as tree trunks, strips of cardboard were used for the

floor, roof and walls, they also left spaces to account for doors and windows. After completing the structure, students were able to decorate their tree houses with paint and recycled materials to make the tree houses look realistic.

“They used their imagination to add elements on the sides of the doorways, as well as seats, tables, lights, curtains, and more.” Descoteau said. “Each student was given the opportunity to personalize the structure which also contributed to the positive level of student engagement in the overall project.”

Descoteau shares that the students were very persistent, engaged, and enthusiastic about adding special designs and elements to their tree house models. It was a very popular project and after the students had base knowledge for the project, they progressed at their own speed and enjoyed the project. This was a great project to end their in-person schooling with.

POLICE, from page 1

bers targeted a \$210,000 transfer, which would have come from the stabilization fund.

According to the funding request from Mayor Alex Morse, the \$131,000 would be used to pay for wage increases for police officers, while the other \$79,000 would be utilized the to pay for things such as court appearances, holiday, training hours, and education bonuses guaranteed by the Quinn Bill.

The contract city officials and the union agreed to calls for a retroactive cost-of-living increase of 0.5 percent, followed by increased of 1 and 1.5 percent in the next two years.

Councilor Peter Tallman, a member of the Finance Committee, expressed great concern about using

Stabilization funds to pay for salaries. City Solicitor Crystal Barnes added that Stabilization funds are not used for this purpose, typically.

Ward 3 Councilor David Bartley accused the city of negotiating in bad faith because city officials knew how much funding the city had to negotiate raises with.

If councilors did not approve the transfer, which requires a two-thirds versus a simple majority vote, then city attorneys and the union must go back to the bargaining table. The clock was also ticking on retroactive pay as the two sides have been negotiating for months. The new contract, if approved, would be retroactive to last July. But without approval before June 30 of this year, funding cannot be appropriated for a previous fiscal year.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD19P0491EA**  
**Estate of:  
Alberto Cruz  
Date of Death: 08/25/2018  
CITATION ON PETITION  
SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY  
A PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Sale of Real Estate** has been filed by **Cynthia Cruz Colon** of Springfield, MA requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/14/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court  
Date: June 16, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
6/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD19P0491EA**

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WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court  
Date: June 16, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
6/26/2020

**City of Holyoke  
Invitation to Bid 2020-016  
Electronic Vote Tabulator**  
The City of Holyoke is seeking sealed bids for the purchase of 15 electronic vote tabulators with carrying cases and compatible software for results accumulation and reporting.

Bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, Room 15, Holyoke City Hall, Holyoke, MA 01040 until 2:00 PM on 7/14/20 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Documents will be avail-

able electronically after 10:00 AM on 6/29/20 by emailing: belangerl@holyoke.org and or sheridanb@holyoke.org..  
The City of Holyoke reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.  
6/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD20D0384DR  
Linnet M Maysonet vs  
Noel E Maysonet  
DIVORCE SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION  
AND MAILING**

To the Defendant:  
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:  
**Linnet M. Maysonet  
87 Clarendon Ave.  
Chicopee, MA 01013**  
your answer, if any, on or before **9/11/2020**. If you fail to

do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: June 19, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
6/26/2020

**SALE OF  
MOTOR VEHICLES  
Under G.L. c. 159B Sec 6B  
as Amended  
By Senate 466 of 1989**  
Notice is hereby given by **Reardon's Garage Inc., 1537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, p39 that on **July 1, 2020 at 12:00 noon** at 1537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA, the following motor vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garagekeepers lien.  
**2015 Toyota Camry**  
Vin# 4T1BF1FK8FU474667  
LKO: Jimmie Oliver  
50 Stebbins St.  
Springfield, MA 01109  
6/12, 6/19, 6/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103**

**Docket No. HD19D0764DR  
Frances Torres vs.  
Wilson Serrano  
DIVORCE SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION  
AND MAILING**

To the Defendant:  
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:

**Bernard Stewart Cohen, Esq.  
Law Office of  
Bernard S. Cohen  
850 Springfield St., Suite 4  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030**

your answer, if any, on or before **09/02/2020**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: June 11, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**

Register of Probate  
6/26/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20C0107CA  
In the matter of:  
Michelle Christine Melikian  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME**

A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Michelle Christine Melikian** of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Michelle Christine Melikian Alves**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/15/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: June 17, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
6/26/2020

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Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

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Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

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All public notices to be published in the Holyoke Sun should be sent directly to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com). Jamie Joslyn processes all public notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie directly at 413-283-8393.

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Please check the accuracy of your public notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.



The Sun

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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

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**THANK YOU ST. JUDE** & God the Father for prayers granted. JMD

## MOVING SALE

**143 CRANE HILL,** Wilbraham. Couches, chairs, tables, tools, lamps, fans, rugs, desks, dresser, toys, plants, dishes, 9am-4pm Sat. June 27.

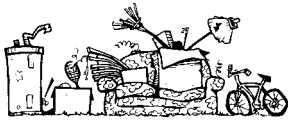
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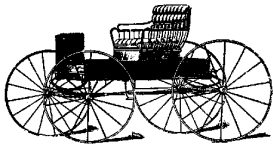
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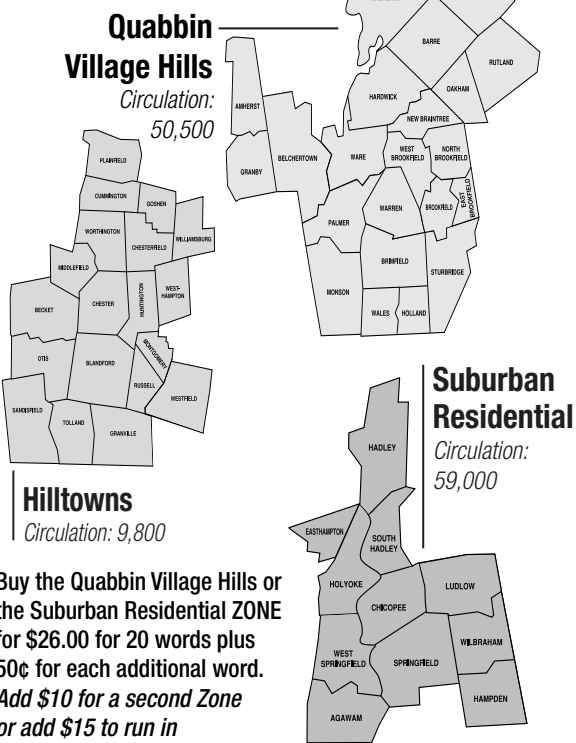
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QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON**  
HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## RE-OPENING, from page 1

As you know, the HPS plan for summer school was released on Friday, June 12. We will offer remote Summer Learning Academies to HPS students in rising grades 1 through 9 this year. If guidance allows, we hope to offer some in-person options later in the summer. Holyoke High School will run both in-person and remote learning summer school. The Transitions program is planning for a remote start and moving into in-person for community-based work. HPS utilized DESE's guidance for summer school, including the June 7th guidance for students with disabilities, to inform the plan. We are working closely with the City to procure PPE (personal protective equipment) and other supplies that are needed to safely have students and staff physically present in school buildings this summer and next school year.

The team brainstormed solutions to many challenges we are likely to face in the coming months and also discussed the importance of gathering more information from key stakeholders. Some topics discussed include:

How can we most effectively connect with students and families to best prepare everyone for return to school?

How should we educate students, families and staff about the importance of face coverings to protect the health

of our entire community?

What support might families need to acquire face coverings?

What are families' comfort level to allow students to physically return to school? How many families will decide to continue with 100% remote learning?

What type of learning or support are families most interested in their children receiving in-person in the fall?

How many students can we safely fit within our classrooms and hallways? How will classroom configurations and traffic patterns need to be arranged?

DESE has committed to releasing return-to-school for SY20-21 guidance shortly. Our team eagerly awaits this information so that we can better answer the questions above and many others. Meanwhile, our committees continue to meet. In fact, the school-based operations team is meeting with educators from France and Germany who have already returned to school to understand their practices and adjustments.

If you have questions and suggestions, please submit them on our Contact Us Form at <https://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/about-us/contact/> or call our Hotlines 413-561-0862 (English) or 413-314-3560 (Spanish). Although we are unable to respond to every email, we will ensure that our reopening leadership team considers every question and suggestion. Thank you.

## SOLDIERS, from page 1

The group has created a web page ([FundHolyokeSoldiersHomeNow.org](http://FundHolyokeSoldiersHomeNow.org)) where citizens can link to a petition. The web page also provides sample letters and telephone messages for people to write to and call elected officials.

"I support immediate action by Governor Baker and legislature to provide state funding to renovate and expand the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke by July 31, 2020, in order to allow the correction of serious conditions which have been ignored for several years," says the group's petition.

As of Friday evening, more than 900 people have signed the petition, which states that conditions at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke are unacceptable and violate the patient rights of veterans for safe and adequate care.

The coalition formed after news reports that a project for a new wing at the Soldiers' Home was approved for 65 percent federal funding in 2013 but has never received a commitment from the Baker administration for state matching funds to proceed.

"We want to be part of the solution to take advantage of a major opportunity to make things right for the families of the Veterans who died, right for the families of the Veterans who died, right for the incredibly dedicated staff who had to work in those conditions and right for

future generations of Veterans who will need the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke," says the group's message on its web page.

In addition to the online petition, a group of family members of veterans who died at the Soldiers' Home after testing positive for COVID-19 sent a letter to Baker to request state approval of the project that would result in a new five-story addition.

In his first official action as the newly installed commander of the Massachusetts Department of Foreign Wars, Russ Jobe signed a letter on behalf of all state VFW members calling on Baker to support the new construction.

The best path forward following the deaths of more than 75 Veteran residents who tested positive for COVID-19 at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke is a vastly improved facility for the Veterans, says the petition and letters.

"We envision a Soldiers' Home in Holyoke where Veterans enjoy excellent quality of life and quality of care; where they, their families, and the staff engage in relationships that result in the best possible environment where Veterans want to live and staff want to work; and where all are protected, sustained in the safest and most compassionate Home possible," says the group.

More information about the group's mission and vision to include a narrative of the construction project can be found at [www.fundholyokesoldiershomenow.org](http://www.fundholyokesoldiershomenow.org).

## INVESTIGATION, from page 1

"Superintendent Bennett Walsh and his clinical and administrative teams failed in their mission, or that the Commonwealth's oversight of the Home was insufficient," the report states. "However, our analysis of the Home's preparations for response to COVID-19 in light of existing public health recommendations has identified substantial errors and failures by the Home's leadership that likely contributed to the death toll during the outbreak.

"Indeed, some of the critical decisions made by Mr. Walsh and his leadership team during the final two weeks of March were utterly baffling from an infection-control perspective, and were inconsistent with the Home's mission to treat its veterans with honor and dignity.

The report also found fault with the oversight, which included the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services.

Veterans Services Secretary Francisco Urena was asked to resign Tuesday night prior to the report being made public. He gave his resignation,

which Baker announced he had accepted Wednesday.

When the outbreak occurred, Walsh was placed on administrative leave and the Board of Directors at the home sought to have Walsh removed permanently. But Walsh cited a lack of due process since he could not have a proper hearing during the pandemic. A judge granted an injunction.

The report stated that Walsh was not qualified to run the home in the first place.

Among the faults the report found, two locked dementia units were used

and veterans were placed in those units with varying COVID-19 statuses. There was a failure to properly isolate those that had COVID-19, delays in closing common spaces, and delays in testing when veterans were showing symptoms of the virus.

Baker plans to have further discussion about the Soldiers Home and how to address the situation on a permanent basis. There is also a petition circulating in the region seeking for the Baker-Polito administration to make major improvements to the facilities at the Soldiers Home.



# Recommendations made for arts education in public schools

HOLYOKE, MA – Dr. Stephen Zrike, Jr., Receiver/ Superintendent of the Holyoke Public Schools, recently announced the release of a series of recommendations designed to create a dynamic, equitable K-12 arts education program in the Holyoke Public Schools (HPS). The recommendations were

developed by the Arts Education Task Force, convened in 2019, and led by Dr. Zrike and Representative Aaron Vega.

The goal of the Task Force was to build on the progress that Holyoke has been making towards its efforts to provide each child attending a Holyoke public school with a substantive arts

education that aligns with the framework developed by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

“The recommendations build on the important work currently taking place in our schools such as the creation of a Performing Arts Academy at Holyoke High School, the addition of more music educators in elementary schools and the implementation of programs with area cultural organizations such as Enchanted Circle Theater, Community Music School of Springfield and Holyoke Media, commented Dr. Zrike.

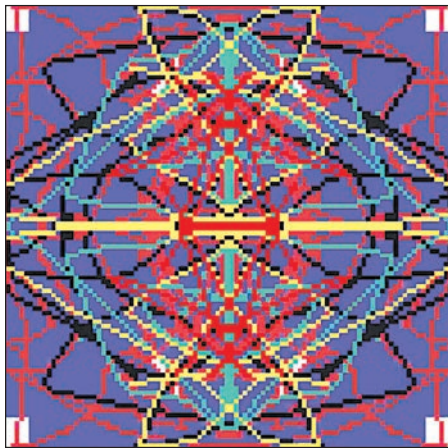
A key component of the recommendations is the hiring of an Arts Education Coordinator to oversee and expand relationships between HPS educators and administrators with area cultural institutions, colleges, and universities. Dr. Zrike, his successor, Dr. Alberto Vázquez Matos, and Representative Vega are working to raise the funds required to support this new position.

Dr. Vázquez Matos noted, “I am a trained classical Spanish guitarist so I have direct experience with how important a well-rounded arts education can play in providing every child with a high-quality education. I am looking forward

to working with the Holyoke community to implement the Task Force’s recommendations.”

The Arts Education recommendations were presented to and received wide approval from, the Holyoke Public School Committee at Dr. Zrike’s final meeting on June 15, 2020.

The report can be accessed at <https://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/HPS-Arts-Education-Recommendations-FY-21-FY23.pdf>



Recommendations have been made for arts programs in the Holyoke Public Schools.

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Students recently participate in the production, “Caught In the Act.” Theater is an important part of the arts education in the Holyoke Schools.


Submitted photos

## Haradon named to UNH Dean’s List

DURHAM, NH – Amelia Haradon of Holyoke, MA has been named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire for earning Highest Honors for the spring 2020 semester. Haradon is majoring in Animal Science.

Students named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic

performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.



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